FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 SEPTEMBER 1984

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Attacks on Vessels — Two vessels were hit in separate attacks on 16 September by "unidentified planes" in the southern Persian Gulf, Tehran radio reported citing Bahrain shipping sources quoted by REUTER. Lloyd's of London confirmed that the Liberian-registered *Med Heron* and the Sri Lankan-registered *Royal Colombo* were attacked in the Gulf, AFP noted. Radio Monte Carlo speculated that Iranian Planes were involved in the attacks.

In a related development, Lloyd's also confirmed that an FRG ship chartered by Iran sank on 13 September near the Nowruz oil fields northeast of Khark Island after it had been hit by an Iraqi missile, INA reported. The FRG subsequently protested to Iraq over the attack on the West German ship, DPA noted. Earlier, London PRESS ASSOCIATION transmitted a British Foreign Office statement that protested an Iraqi attack on the German-owned Panamanian-registered *Seetrans 21* on 12 September south of Khark Island, which killed three British citizens.

In a separate attack, Iranian planes "pounded" the Iraqi Al-Bakr and Al-'Amayah oil jetties in the northern Persian Gulf on 16 September, according to IRNA citing the Iranian Joint Staff Command.

Hijackings — Iraqi "security men" killed three Iranians during a foiled attempt to hijack an Iraqi airliner while over Syria on 15 September, the Iraqi transport minister announced in a statement to INA. He stated that the incident aboard the Cyprus-Baghdad flight was an attempt by Iran to "mitigate the impact" caused by the recent hijackings of three Iranian planes to Iraq. Tehran radio cited an AP report that the plane was over Jordan when three Lebanese and Cypriot hijackers were wounded. An Iranian Foreign Ministry official later denied Iran's involvement in the incident, claiming that it was a "conspiracy" by Iraq to divert the world's attention, the radio noted. The official pointed out that Iran condemns "all acts of air piracy." Meanwhile, the passengers of one of the Iranian planes recently hijacked to Iraq returned to Iran on 15 September aboard a Lebanese plane, IRNA reported.

Mecca Incident — Iranian pilgrims in Mecca who were demonstrating against Saudi "discrimination" were attacked on 13 September by "Saddamist regime lackeys," who were given "every assistance" by Saudi security forces, resulting in the wounding of a number of the Iranians, Tehran radio's Arabic service reported. One of the injured later died, IRNA noted, and the Iranian Foreign Ministry protested to Saudi Arabia over the "inhumanistic and non-Islamic act," which was undertaken by those who had been "slapped in the face" by the "magnificent demonstrations" in Mecca and Medina. An Iranian official stated that the "premeditated crime" was carried out with the support of Saudi officials, and that the Saudi Government will be responsible for any incident which might result from the "anger" of Muslim pilgrims, Tehran radio reported. A group of Iraqi pilgrims were detained by Saudi officials, but then were released because of lack of evidence, SPA reported citing an Interior Ministry statement. The statement also reported that Iraqi pilgrims were injured in the incident as well.

Meanwhile, four other Iranian pilgrims died in Mecca from natural causes on 11 and 12 September, according to IRNA. All of the remaining Iranian pilgrims in Mecca are expected to leave by 18 September, the agency added.

Israel

Reactions to Coalition — Commenting on the formation of the new Israeli Cabinet, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali stated that Egypt's stand toward Israel has not changed and is still based on withdrawal from Lebanon and negotiations on the Tabah question and Palestinian affairs, Cairo radio noted. A commentary broadcast by the radio pointed out that the coalition government was formed "at the expense of a painful compromise" by both factions, and that the road to peace and stability "will remain open" to an Israeli Government.

A Damascus radio commentary stated that any Israeli Government will be "hostile and expansionist," and that the present development is only a new move by the United States in the area. The radio cited the Damascus paper *AL-BA'TH*'s contention that the region will experience a "state of extreme tension, troubles, and policies of aggression and expansion" as a result of the new Cabinet.

Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri stated in an interview broadcast by Amman television that he had been expecting the policies of the two parties to be "identical," and this was demonstrated by their agreement on various issues. He speculated that the government's main task will be of an economic rather than political nature. An Amman radio commentary affirmed that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' call for peace "cannot serve the peace process" as long as Israel adheres to the policy of "expansionism, aggression, and colonialism."

Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, stated that there is "no great difference between the past and present," and that the new government will not bring "great hope" for "just and comprehensive" solutions because Israel seeks to "dominate and control" the region.

Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, reiterated in a statement to WAFA cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO that the two coalition parties are "two sides of the same coin," and that the new government's basis is war. He added that the policy of settlements and "terrorism" means that the two parties reject peace in the Middle East.

Devaluation — The shekel was devalued on 16 September by 9 percent as an "anticipatory step" toward the comprehensive economic plan, Jerusalem radio reported. The price of fuel also was increased by 9 percent, the radio added.

Mayor Assassinated — The authorities have detained four people suspected of assassinating the mayor of Rafah, in Gaza, on 14 September, Jerusalem radio reported. Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed that PLO "revolutionaries" carried out a "death sentence" on the Rafah mayor, who was a "Zionist enemy agent."

Egypt

Egypt plans to make a "new move" to help solve the Palestinian problem and establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid disclosed in a foreign policy statement carried by MENA. He said the move will aim to "crystallize definite ideas that will be accepted in principle by the various parties."

Lebanon

Military Situation — A Voice of Lebanon radio report that Israeli planes raided positions in the Al-Biqa' valley on 15 September was not confirmed or mentioned by monitored Israeli and Syrian media. The Voice of Lebanon's report, which cited "security sources," spoke of an air raid on armed positions in the Dayr al-Ghazal area. The radio subsequently reported that Israeli planes overflying Ba'labakk during the Syrian defense minister's visit there were subjected to intensive antiaircraft fire. In another development, a Lebanese military source cited by Beirut radio announced that an unidentified gunboat fired at the military beach in West Beirut on 14 September. "Informed security sources" said the vessel belonged to the Phalangist militias based in Al-Jiyah, south of Beirut, according to the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio.

Syrian Political Role — A Syrian military delegation met with President Amin al-Jumayyil and Lebanese Army commanders in Bikfayya on 14 September for talks aimed at finalizing moves to implement the Mountain security plan, Beirut radio reported. The Syrian delegation also held talks with Progressive Socialist Party and Amal Movement officials in Shtawrah, the clandestine Voice of The Mountain radio noted. Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri subsequently left "unexpectedly" for Damascus to consult with the Syrian leaders, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Meanwhile, Damascus radio announced that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's mediation efforts had succeeded in producing an agreement between the warring factions in Tripoli: The Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party. A comprehensive agreement between the two sides will be signed on 17 September, the radio disclosed.

Afghanistan-Pakistan

Pakistan protested the violation of Pakistani airspace by Afghan planes on 14 September, according to an official announcement in Islamabad cited by Karachi radio. The planes dropped bombs near a border town in northern Waziristan, but there were no casualties, the radio noted. Afghanistan was warned that the "situation may worsen" if such violations are not halted, and that Kabul will be "fully responsible."

In a separate development, USSR Deputy Premier Ziya Nuriyev left Kabul for Moscow after attending a commission for economic cooperation, Kabul radio reported.

Morocco

The center-left Constitutional Union won the most seats in the legislative elections on 14 September, according to an announcement by Interior Minister Driss Basri broadcast by Rabat radio. Eight of the 12 parties won seats among the 199 places being contested.

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'Arafat on Talks With Israel Through UN

JN141823 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] In a statement to the *(?NORTH-SOUTH)* magazine, published in Brussels, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said he agrees to participate in direct negotiations with Israel organized by the United Nations. He added: We are willing to sit down at any negotiating table, provided we are represented as Palestinians. He said such negotiations could deal with mutual recognition — recognition of an Israeli state and recognition of a Palestinian state — and peace negotiations between the two states. We want peace, but Israel does not currently agree to such peace. We are fighting occupation. We have the right to do so; it is our duty.

PFLP-GC Official Responds

JN152052 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus — Fadl Shururu, secretary of the PFLP-GC Political Bureau, has called on all Palestinian fighters to isolate 'Arafat, to rebel against him, and carry out the people's and revolution's sentence against him. This came in a comment on 'Arafat's statements to the Belgian magazine *(?NORTH-SOUTH)* in which 'Arafat said: We agree to participate in direct negotiations with the Israelis. Shururu stressed that 'Arafat's statements contradict PNC resolutions and PLO Executive Committee decisions. He said they fall within the context of national and pan-Arab treason. These statements embody an integrated political course that 'Arafat is maneuvering to finalize and implement at the expense of the Palestinian people.

Al-Sa'iqah Responds

JN161453 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1350 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus, 16 Sep (SANA) — The Popular Liberation War Vanguards-Al-Sa'iqah Forces have condemned the recent statement by Yasir 'Arafat in which he announced readiness to recognize the Zionist entity and to hold talks with its leaders in order to liquidate the Palestinian cause and end its people's struggle. This came in a statement made by Al-Sa'iqah's spokesman today.

The spokesman said: It is not strange for 'Arafat to openly announce his frank, treacherous stand and his readiness to liquidate oru people's cause on the day the Zionist war government was formed. The agent Palestinian and Arab tools of the U.S.-Israeli conspiracy are escalating their efforts to attain its objectives. These schemes are aimed at imposing hegemony over the area by striking at the Arab liberation movement and dealing a blow to the brave Syrian forces which stand in the front trench to defend Palestine, Lebanon, and Arab dignity. Al-Sa'iqah called for toppling 'Arafat and isolating him completely.

PPSF Responds

JN161843 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus — In a statement issued today, a responsible source in the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF] denounced Yasir 'Arafat's statement on his readiness to negotiate with the enemy and continue coordination with the Camp David regime in Egypt. The source stressed that the statements by 'Arafat and his deviationist leadership express the fatal contradications of this leadership, which has lost confidence and legitimacy as a result of its deviation from national unanimity and its involvement in the march of capitulation and the U.S. imperialist settlements. The source called on the Palestinian people to assume their responsibilities to defend their legitimate rights and isolate the deviationist right wing that has violated the National Charter and the PNC resolutions. It also called for a resolute stand against the course of capitulation and deviation represented by 'Arafat's leadership.

The statement praised Syria's steadfast stand under President Hafiz al-Asad in face of all the capitulatory Zionist-imperialist plots. It also called for bolstering the alliance among Syria, the Palestinian revolution forces, the national progressive Arab forces, and the forces of progress and liberation in the world.

'Arafat Has Talks With UK Ambassador in Tunis

LD151142 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Tunis, 15 Sep (TAP) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, had talks yesterday with the British ambassador to Tunis, James Adam, at the headquarters of the Palestinian leadership in Tunis . The meeting dealt with the situation in the Middle East, the developments of the Iraq-Iran war, and the efforts being carried out by the PLO to put a halt to this war, in addition to bilateral relations.

'Arafat To Meet With King Husayn Soon in Amman

JN161729 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Brother Nabil 'Amr, information adviser to Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], has said that Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar will visit Amman soon to meet with King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials. They will hold consultations, discuss several important issues, and exchange information on all developments on the Arab and international levels, especially since Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar's recent successful Arab and African tour.

Our correspondent in Amman said Brother Nabil 'Amr pointed out that the Palestinian leadership has received the fraternal Algerian desire to wait a few days before the convening the PNC in order to give time to the joint Algerian-PDRY effort aimed at normalizing Syrian-Palestinian relations and creating a better atmosphere for the PNC on the basis of the Aden-Algiers agreement and with the participation of all national Palestinian forces that are represented in the PNC.

SPA: 'Arafat on Military Committee for Iran-Iraq War

LD170943 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0846 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Sep (SPA) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, revealed that contacts are being made to set a date for a meeting of the military committee formed by the Islamic Good Offices Committee entrusted with the task of working for an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war. 'Arafat said the meeting was scheduled for 16 August, but was postponed at the request of members of the committee, which includes the PLO, Pakistan, Turkey, and Bangladesh. In a statement to the Iraqi magazine *ALIF BA'*, to be published Wednesday, 'Arafat pointed out that the military committee has been charged with formulating an Islamic peace-keeping force to be placed between the Iraqi and Iranian sides.

'Arafat Condemns Attempts To Obstruct PNC Meeting

LD162338 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpt] The Palestinian leader, Yasir 'Arafat confirmed that in spite of the attempts of those who are trying to obstruct its convention, the PNC will be held even if it is on the deck of a ship which sails the Mediterranean under the UN flag. During the opening session of the constituent conference of the Association of Palestinian Artists yesterday in Tunis, 'Arafat said that convening the PNC is an implementation of the resolution of Palestinians both inside and outside the occupied land, people represented by its popular organizations and institutions. 'Arafat condemned attempts to obstruct the convening of this council in spite of the long dialogue sessions which took place for 7 months among most of the detachments of the Palestinian revolution, and which were crowned by the Algiers-Aden agreement as approved and signed by both sides and by important sectors of the Palestinian people.

Efforts To Convene PNC Reported

JN161734 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee session, which was held in Tunis in the presence of Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], ended yesterday. Our correspondent said the committee discussed political and technical aspects of convening of the PNC as well as the latest developments in the Palestine question on various levels and our steadfast people's conditions in the occupied homeland. Our correspondent said that the Central Committee announced at the end of the meeting its approval of the continued efforts by our brothers in Algeria and the PDRY to overcome obstacles that may prevent the convening of the PNC. He added that the Central Committee expressed its support for these mediation efforts, and that a meeting of all parties of the Palestinian Dialogue Committee will be held in Algiers on 18 September in the presence of Algerian and PDRY representatives in order to announce a final date for the PNC.

Meanwhile, our correspondent in Algeria said the fourth meeting of the of the Palestinian national dialogue body ended yesterday in a positive atmosphere. At the same time, our radio correspondent said Algiers is expecting PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to arrive this week to exchange views about joint mediation and recent developments.

Groups Support Convening Session

GF151812 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Brothers, the meeting of the Palestinian-Algerian-PDRY committee — which includes representatives from Fatah, Democratic Alliance groups, the Algerian National Liberation Front's party, and the Yemeni Socialist Party — opened in the Algerian capital yesterday to finalize political and technical preparations for convening the 17th session of the PNC at the proposed time and place in accordance with the Aden-Algiers agreement. These meetings will implement the agreement reached during the recent meeting of the national Palestinian dialogue committees in Algiers and during the intensive meetings which the groups of the Democratic Alliance held with the PLO leadership and with Fatah's leadership headed by Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] in the Tunisian capital at the beginning of this month. These meetings are the result of national Palestinian agreement among the dialogue parties on the necessity of continuing contacts and meetings in order to thwart all those parties threatening whoever plans to take part in the PNC meetings, following the futile attempts to impede the march of the national dialogue among the independent Palestinian factions.

The popular stance, as expressed by the PNC members from within the heart of Damascus and from within Al-Yarmuk camp and all the other Palestinian camps in Syria 2 days ago, reflects the decision of revolution's masses in Syria to renew their allegiance to the PLO and to stress their absolute support for the PLO and its legitimate leadership despite all threats.

In light of all that has been said, all the organizational and political requirements for convening the PNC have now become fully available according to the fundamental rules and regulations of the PLO. On the one hand, the PLO's Executive Committee — which is the highest leadership and executive authority for the Palestinian people — has, during its recent meeting in Tunis, submitted a formal request to convene the 17th session of the PNC as stated by the rules and regulations of the PNC itself. On the other hand, there is almost a unanimous agreement by three quarters of the PNC members on the necessity of convening it at the precise time and place as required by the Aden-Algiers agreement. Until the official invitations to members and guests are extended, we find it incumbent upon us to recall once more that the mere convening of the 17th PNC session will put an end to the conspiracy and the conspirators, and will open new horizons for the PLO to play its complete role as leader of the nationalist and Arab action during an era of official Arab decline and retreat before the Zionist-U.S. challenge.

PLO's Qaddumi Raps Likud-Labor Government

JN161737 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, has described the Likud and Labor Parties, which form the new Israeli Government, as two sides of the same coin. He pointed out that the new government's basis is war.

In a statement published by WAFA, Brother Abu al-Lutf stressed that the policy of settlements and terrorism in the occupied Arab territories is a common factor in the policies of the two parties. He added that the two parties ignore the Palestinian people's national rights and agree on not recognizing the PLO. He said this means the two parties reject peace in the Middle East. Referring to President Reagan's speech before a Zionist grouping in Washington, Brother Abu al-Lutf said the United States encourages this aggressive line through its support for the Zionist entity.

Palestinian Official on U.S. Arms to Israel

JN150759 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Sep 84 pp 1, 27

[Text] Damascus — Bassam Abu Sharif, member of the Joint Command of the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has announced he has received information that the U.S. Administration has agreed to supply Israel with very sophisticated weapons on the pretext of confronting Soviet weapons in the Middle East. Abu Sharif said the U.S. decision was adopted last week and these weapons will be delivered to the Zionist entity before the end of this year. He added that by this step, the U.S. and Israeli Governments will endanger the region. Abu Sharif said the U.S. and Israeli Governments are planning to launch a new aggression against the PLO, Syria, and the Lebanese nationalist forces. He said this situation calls for reestablishing an alliance among the PLO, Syria, and Lebanese nationalist forces.

Abu Sharif said: The Aden agreement between Fatah and the Democratic Alliance is considered a suitable base to rebuild the PLO, and the PFLP adheres to the agreement. He added that the next few days will witness increased efforts to remove the obstacles in reestablishing this alliance, and said that efforts will focus on achieving fruitful results through comprehensive national dialogue — results which will lead to the convocation of the PNC. Abu Sharif concluded his statement by accusing the National Alliance of being irresponsible in continuing to adhere to its current stand toward the PLO's unity and the comprehensive national dialogue.

L'UNITA Interviews PLO Commander Khalid al-Wazir

PM131028 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 10 Sep 84 p 6

[Interview with Khalid al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of PLO armed forces, identified by nom de guerre Abu Jihad, by Efran Rashid in Tunis; date not given]

[Excerpt] Tunis — [Rashid] What are the foundations of the accord reached in Aden and Algiers by the five Palestinian organizations?

[Al-Wazir] The general political-organizational accord reached at the Aden and Algiers meetings is the most important step forward the PLO has taken in the past year toward surmounting its internal crisis. There are two main points to the accord: first, the decision to convene the PNC — our largest democratic institution — by the end of September; and second, the recognition of the principle that internal disagreements must not be settled on the basis of coercion and violence but on democratic relations. The four Palestinan organizations that agreed to a dialogue with us — members of Fatah — are fully aware of the need to restore a democratic dialogue within the PLO. The remaining difficulties, on which we are working together, concern the attitude of certain countries, certain Arab forces. The most important factor is that our people who live in the Israeli-occupied territories have already given their full support to this accord and have denounced and isolated the forces that caused Palestinian blood to be shed in the Al-Biqa' Valley in northen Lebanon. For us it is also very important to be able to depend on the solidarity of the Italian and East European democratic forces which support our people and their just cause. Indeed, we are well aware that we cannot ignore the many international aspects of our cause.

[Rashid] Some Palestinian groups seem unwilling to participate in the PNC and challenge its representativeness and legitimacy. Syria's stance seems decisive in this regard. Did Syrian President al-Asad's recent visit to Algiers take place within the context of negotiations for the convening of the PNC? Has a date been set yet?

[Al-Wazir] As I have said we are trying in every way to meet before the end of September. As far as its representativeness and legitimacy are concerned these are to be taken for granted anyway. The PNC is composed of 384 members. It is our parliament and elects, as in any other democratic system, the leadership of the PLO. Even before the Aden and Algiers agreement Fatah had the legal number of members (257) to be able to convene it. But we were not interested only in numerical legitimacy; we wanted the meeting to be convened by a broad political majority to guarantee the organization's internal pluralism. That is why we tried everything to reach agreement with the other four organizations, that is, the Democratic Front, the People's Front, the Palestinian Communist Party, and the Palestine Liberation Front. For their part, the dissidents have at most about 40 PNC members. With regard to relations with Syria, we have made every possible effort to resume a dialogue and to reach an agreement based on noninterference in our internal affairs. Previously, the Syrian leadership has refused to reach an agreement and has threatened several times to found a rival organization to the PLO. In the past there have been attempts in this direction, but without our people's support they cannot succeed. Contacts with the Syrians are being conducted by South Yemen and Algeria and further meetings are scheduled for mid-September. We hope that our friends' efforts will succeed. Syrian President al-Asad's visit to Algeria took place within this context.

[Rashid] What is your opinion of the latest developments in Israel and of the attempt to create a "grand coalition" between the Labor Party and the Likud Party? What effect would the formation of such a government have on your people in the occupied territories?

[Al-Wazir] Since the invasion of Lebanon, starting on 6 June 1982, Israel's political and economic crisis has deteriorated. Since then nothing has been as it was before. It was like a earthquake everywhere, from the government to the parliament, from the political parties to the economy. A contributing factor to this crisis was made by the heroic resistance of our people under the PLO's leadership in the occupied territories and the heroic and untiring resistance of the Lebanese people. Israel could perhaps try to alleviate or block this crisis but it can never surmount it without the conclusion of a just and lasting peace agreement with our people, without recognizing our people's right to a homeland and a free and independent state. In any case, the attempt to form a coalition between the Labor and Likud Parties does not resolve any problems, and could at best lead to a weak and short-lived government. As far as the Labor party is concerned, the coalition with the Likud Party can only discredit Shi'mon Peres and his party's leadership. How can a party contest an election with a program and then, after the election, agree with the rival party on a completely different program? We do not see much difference between the violence and aggressiveness of a Shimon Peres and those of Shamir and Begin. And we know that we must prepare for further attacks on our people.

Sabri al-Banna Group Leaves for Tunisia, Algeria

NC141656 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Sep 84

[Text] Palestinian elements from the Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] group left Syria last week for Tunisia and Algeria for the purpose of carrying out assassination operations against a number of Palestinian officials. These elements have been furnished with forged Lebanese passports. They have also been furnished with maps showing the places of residence of 'Arafat and other Palestinian officials. The aim of the assassinations is to affect the Palestine National Council meetings, to which Syria is opposed.

U.S. Rumored To Evacuate Nationals From Gulf State

PM131039 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 6 Sep 84 p 1

[Mustafa al-Buhayri report: "The United States Hires an Egyptian Plane To Evacuate U.S. Nationals From a Gulf State"]

[Text] London — An American has concluded an agreement with an Egyptian airline company — from the private sector — placing one of the company's 707 jets on standby for 30 days. The agreement said that the plane should, at 12 hours' notice, be ready to take off and proceed to an Arab Gulf state to evacuate U.S. nationals to Paris. The company will get $71,000 for every trip made. A group of U.S. experts carefully examined the plane before the contract was signed. The American side refused to give the name of the Gulf state from which the aircraft would evacuate U.S. nationals.

Observers watching developments in the Gulf region have ruled out the Arab states where there are U.S. forces at present. They link the aircraft standby arrangement to the arms agreement recently concluded between Kuwait and the Soviet Union. The aircraft which is supposed to evacuate the U.S. nationals belongs to a number of small companies which are not well known.

LE MONDE Interviews Arab League's Klibi

PM141323 Paris LE MONDE in French 11 Sep 84 p 4

[Interview with Arab League Secretary Chedli Klibi by Erich Rouleau; date and place not given]

[Text] France's relations with the Arab world were due to be the subject of talks on Monday 10 September between [French Prime Minister] Laurent Fabius and Arab League Secretary Chedli Klibi. "The volume and quality of exchanges justify our hope for a more dynamic policy from the Fabius government in implementing a process leading to a lasting peace in the Middle East," he told us.

Mr Klibi hopes in particular that French diplomacy will tackle the task of facilitating the convening of an international conference under UN auspices, to be attended by representatives of Israel, the Palestinians, the Arab states concerned, and the permanent members of the Security Council. "As spokesman for the Arab consensus," Mr Klibi continued, "I guarantee that all League members have agreed to settle the Middle East conflicts at the negotiating table, on formulating measures which would on the one hand give the Palestinians a homeland and on the other hand give Israel security, while at the same time governing future relations among all the states of the region. What more could one ask?"

France is in the best position to persuade Israel and the United States to attend such a conference, the Arab League secretary argued. "President Mitterrand maintains the best of relations with Israel — did he not end the Jewish state's isolation by being the first Western head of state to pay an official visit to Jerusalem? — with the Labor Party, a member of the Socialist International; and with the United States, whose arguments about the defense of Atlantic Alliance members he supports."

Mr Klibi warned the European Community against mistakenly believing that the Arab world will accept its passiveness indefinitely despite its proclamation of support for Israel's security and for the Palestinians' right to self-determination. "The Arab peoples already believe the United States is no longer alone in encouraging Israel's intransigence; they despair of the West, and are tempted to turn to the East, some out of conviction, others out of frustration, bitterness, or revenge." Mr Klibi said: "Let there be no objections that the existing governments have won over the West! Rising social and political unrest is one of the major phenomena of the Third World and experience shows that no country is proof against sudden upheavals."

According to Mr Klibi, a "historic opportunity" exists for bringing peace to the Middle East. "For the first time in the Israeli-Arab conflict the members of the League unanimously approved at the Fes summit the partitioning of Palestine into two states, one of which — Palestine — would be established in the territories evacuated by Israel."

The formulation of the "Fes plan" should be made more explicit at the next Arab summit, due to take place at the end of November in Riyadh. But before that there are still three obstacles to be cleared away: the dispute between President al-Asad and Yasir 'Arafat, between Syria and Iraq over the Gulf war, and the divergences among the Maghreb countries.

Concerning this last point, the Arab League secretary indicated he will work for an early meeting of the king of Morocco and the presidents of Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, and Tunisia. "It is the only way," he added, "of dispelling the mistrust created by the recent treaty between Rabat and Tripoli, of creating a favorable climate for the solution of the Western Sahara problem. In my opinion, this is how to prevent the situation from deteriorating and leading ultimately to the crystallization of two blocs of antagonistic states." The Arab League secretary believes that none of the Maghreb leaders is opposed in principle to such meetings, though "it will be necessary to prepare carefully for a meeting designed to restore trusting cooperation between states having every reason to unite."

KUNA: Klibi Decries Israel's 'Circle of Terror'

LD161145 Kuwait KUNA in English 1004 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Tunis, Sept 16 (KUNA) — The Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi warned Sunday that the peace plan of the Arab Fes summit meeting in 1982 "will not exist for a long time to come" if Israel adamantly kept rejecting "arbitrating international legitimacy and insisted on stepping on the values and principles of the world community."

In a communique released on the second anniversary of the massacre of hundreds of Palestinians in Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut, Klibi criticised the U.S. Government for vetoing a Lebanese draft resolution at the Security Council condemning Israeli arbitrary practices and measures in south Lebanon. The secretary general said the American veto would only encourage Israel to continue its inhuman practices in south Lebanon as long as it was safe from international sanctions.

Klibi said Israel is continuing with its circle of terror not only in south Lebanon but throughout all over Arab territories under its occupation. "In addition to the continuing Israeli aggression on the unarmed Palestinian refugee camps in Sidon, Al-Nabatiyah, and Sur, as well as the Israeli air raids on Palestinian and Lebanese civilian concentrations in the Al-Biqa' valley and the north, the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon enters its third year bringing with it the danger of transforming the south to another West Bank," the secretary general noted. He said besides suppressing the popular resistance, Israel is flooding the south with Israeli-made goods and linking the south to the Israeli economy as a prelude to separating it from the rest of the country.

Klibi said the reign of terror in Israel against the Arabs reached its climax with the recent election of Kahane to the Knesset (parliament). Kahane won his parliamentary seat on a platform advocating the forcible expulsion of Arabs from their homeland. The secretary general added that the appointment of Ariel Sharon as commerce and industry minister in the new Israel Government after his ignominous resignation as defense minister from the Begin government over the Sabra and Shatila massacres proved that the commission of inquiry which Begin set up was merely a cover to extricate his government from any involvement in the ugly carnage. Klibi said the Sabra and Shatila massacres and the previous carnage committed by the Israeli Army and Jewish gangs in the occupied territories were planned acts which reflected the real meaning of Zionism is void of any moral values.

The secretary general said the American veto in the Security Council was received with astonishment in the Arab world for the draft resolution only called on Israel to cease its aggressive practices in south Lebanon.

Israeli Agent Executed in Gaza Strip

JN151713 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1612 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland have carried out the people's and revolution's sentence of death by firing squad a Zionist enemy agent in the city of Rafah in the occupied Gaza Strip. The death sentence was carried out against agent 'Abd al-Hamid Mansur Qishtah, mayor of the city of Rafah who was appointed by the Zionist occupation authorities, after our revolutionaries began to observe all his movements. He was shot while wandering in the city's streets. He suffered fatal head injuries and died in a Zionist enemy hospital. After carrying out the death sentence against agent Qishtah, our revolutionaries returned safely to base.

It is worth noting that agent 'Abd al-Hamid Mansur Qishtah assumed the post of Rafah mayor in 1982 when this city was divided into two sections in accordance with the Camp David accords.

Israeli Soldier Captured in South Lebanon

JN151736 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1612 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] In a successful heroic operation in occupied southern Lebanon, Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men captured a Zionist soldier and killed or wounded several Zionist soliders. This daring operation, carried out with machine guns and missiles, destroyed a Zionist military patrol. A Zionist spokesman in southern Lebanon admitted this daring operation but, as usual, claimed his forces sustained no losses. He said his forces launched a large-scale search campaign for the resistance men, who returned safely to base, taking with them the captured Zionist soldier.

Resistance men also attacked a Zionist military patrol while it was passing through the area of (Al-Khara'ib) in Al-Zahrani in occupied southern Lebanon today. The attack, which was carried out with machine guns and rockets, resulted in killing or wounding several Zionist soldiers and destroying two jeeps. The exchange of fire lasted more than 10 minutes.The Zionist military spokesman also admitted this attack, but declined to mention his losses. The spokesman said Zionsit forces in the area were reinforced and these forces launched an immediate large-scale search campaign. He added that several citizens were arrested on the pretext of interrogation.

Resistance Attacks in South Lebanon Reported

JN141727 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men are escalating their heroic operations against personnel and equipment of the Zionist invasion forces and the militias of the so-called the agent army of southern Lebanon, inflicting further loss in life and equipment. A resistance group launched a lighting attack yesterday on a Zionist military patrol when it passed near Juwayya in occupied southern Lebanon. One Zionist militaryjeep was destroyed and all of its occupants were either killed or wounded in the machine gun and rocket attack.

Another resistance group launched a machine gun and rocket attack yesterday on a military position belonging to the militias of the so-called the army of southern Lebanon near Qa'qa'iyat al-Jisr in occupied southern Lebanon. Several elements of the Zionist position were either killed or wounded. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the two operations but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said his forces and elements from the agent militias carried out extensive searches and arrested a large number of citizens on the pretext of collaborating with the resistance men, who returned safely to base.

OPEC Issues Statement on 24th Anniversary

LD151018 Vienna OPECNA in English 2109 GMT 14 Sep 84

["Statement by the OPEC Secretariat on the occasion of OPEC's 24th anniversary" — OPECNA heading]

[Text] The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) today celebrates its 24th anniversary, proud of its achievements over this relatively long period, and especially during this year. The success of OPEC in the course of the past few months in defending the oil price structure and in restoring stability to the world oil market, in the face of a prolonged economic recession and without much help from most other oil exporters, has definitely been a major accomplishment.

Contrary to what OPEC detractors had predicted, our organization has not only stood up to the challenges of the past year, but has also emerged stronger and more united than at any other time. The strong commitments of OPEC member countries to the overall policies of the organization have been reiterated by our sovereigns and heads of state in the most unequivocal manner. This, as has been very clearly observed, has had a marked impact on market conditions and reinforced the assertion of OPEC'S role as the leader in this market. Moreover, the turbulent conditions witnessed by the oil market since 1980 have gradually brought home to the other oil producers the fact that it is in their interest, as much as it is in the interest of OPEC, to cooperate in the pursuit and maintenance of market stability and strength.

Although OPEC has so far virtually single-handedly borne the entire burden of ensuring market equilibrium at an enormous cost to the social and economic development of its member countries, it has become increasingly clear that this situation cannot continue indefinitely, given the fact that OPEC members are developing countries which rely almost entirely on oil export revenues to finance their development. The change in attitude consequent upon this realization, as well as the efforts initiated by OPEC to promote contact and dialogue with other oil exporters, have contributed to the arrest of the rapid deterioration of the market towards the end of July of this year and to the substantial recovery witnessed since then.

Notwithstanding these accomplishments, the need for wider cooperation between all oil exporters as well as between oil producers and consumers is now more urgent than ever. The underlying weakness of the world economy as a whole, the uneven pattern of economic recovery in the industrialized countries, and the severe difficulties facing the developing countries, can only serve to perpetuate weakness in the oil market in particular, and the energy market in general, with incalculable consequences to world prosperity. It is, therefore, to the benefit of all parties to work together towards maintaining order in the world energy market.

As we celebrate today this historical event, we look forward with confidence to greater solidarity among OPEC member countries, and cooperation with the other partners in the world energy industry, be they producers or consumers.

OAPEC Energy Sources Committee Meets

LD152024 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1644 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Sep (KUNA) — The meeting of the Energy Sources Committee began this morning at the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) headquarters. This is one of three working committees of the Arab Energy Conference; the other two committees are the Energy Demand Committee and the Petroleum Industries Committee.

A source at the organization told KUNA that the organization secretary general, Dr 'Ali Ahmad 'Atiqa, opened the meeting with an address in which he stressed that energy is one of the Arab countries' strongest links, proof being the Arab Energy Conference which is comprised of all the Arab countries. Dr 'Atiqa expressed satisfaction with the fine preparation of the conference papers of this committee, pointing out that the conference's success depends not only on the administrative organization but also on the quality of the papers submitted to it. Dr 'Atiqa wished the meeting success.

During the meeting, the committee will discuss the development of a number of papers and studies pertaining to sources of energy and other organizational aspects concerning the work of this committee within the conference program. The committee includes Arab experts on a number of energy sources.

The source stated that the third Arab Energy Conference will be held in Algeria next May. The first conference was held in Abu Dhabi in March 1979, while the second was held in Qatar in March 1982.

GULF AFFAIRS

Iranian Jets Attack Two Vessels in Gulf

JN161020 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Citing Maritime sources in the Gulf, reports from Bahrain this morning said a Liberian oil tanker and a South Korean bulk carrier had been hit in the Gulf region. According to preliminary reports, it seems that Iranian jets attacked the oil tanker and the bulk carrier. No casualties have so far been reported.

Liberian Ship's Captain Cited

NC161031 Paris AFP in English 1030 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Manama, Sept 16 (AFP) — A Liberian-registered tanker, the *Med Heron*, was badly damaged today by a missile fired by an unidentified aircraft in the southern sector of the Gulf, the ship's captain reported by telephone. The captain said the crews' quarters had been badly damaged by the missile but none of the 24 crew members on board had been wounded. He said the situation was now under control.

Lloyd's Confirms Attack

NC161407 Paris AFP in English 1405 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] London, Sep 16 (AFP) — Lloyd's Shipping Intelligence Service has confirmed that two tankers were damaged today in air attacks in the Gulf. Maritime sources in Manama and Kuwait had earlier said the vessels were struck by missiles in the southern sector of the Gulf.

Lloyd's identified the ships as the Liberian-registered *Med Heron*, formerly known as the *Heron*, and the *Royal Colombo*, registered in Sri Lanka. Maritime sources in the Gulf had identified the second vessel as the *Pan Crystal* of South Korea, but Lloyd's noted that the radio call numbers of the *Pan Crystal* had recently been transferred to the *Royal Colombo*..

The Sri Lankan vessel, weighing 71,474 tonnes, was attacked by an unidentified aircraft at latitude 26 degrees 10 minutes north and longitude 53 degrees 10 mins. east and issued a distress signal after a fire broke out on board, Lloyd's reported. The ship had left the Saudi port of Ra's Tanura yesterday after taking on a shipment of crude oil destined for Colombo, according to Lloyd's.

Tankers Receive Assistance

NC161635 Paris AFP in English 1631 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Rotterdam, the Netherlands, Sep 16 (AFP) — Two tugs from the Dutch salvaging firm Smit Tak International were accompanying the Sri Lankan tanker *Royal Colombo* towards Bahrain today after it was struck by missiles in the Gulf, a spokesman for the company said.

He said the tugs, the Prado and *Theresa*, were initially despatched to assist the Greek tanker *Med Heron* and the South Korean freighter *Pan Crystal*, also reported to have been hit today. According to Smit Tak, the masters of the *Med Heron* and *Pan Crystal* announced they could continue under their own steam.

The *Royal Colombo*, which loaded 72,000 tonnes of oil at the Saudi port of Ra's Tanura, was headed for Sri Lanka. According to information reaching Smit Tak headquarters here, the *Royal Colombo* had not yet responded to offers of help from Smit Tak's two tugs which neverthless were continuing to follow it to Bahrain. The damage appeared to be limited to the tanker's pump room and did not look serious, according to the skippers of the tugs.

KUWAIT

Deputy Premier Views Summit on Gulf Issues

LD161146 Kuwait KUNA in English 1037 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 16 (KUNA) — Kuwait is hopeful that some progress can be made at the upcoming Riyadh Arab summit towards solving long-standing differences between Iraq and neighbouring Syria, a senior Kuwaiti official was quoted as saying Sunday [16 September]

Deputy Premier Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told the Iraqi magazine *ALIF-BA'* that the issue was foremost among the topics he discussed with Syrian leaders during his latest visit to Damascus. The Kuwaiti minister had stressed that inter-Arab differences were doubly dangerous when Iraq was at war with Iran. "Our hopes are high that the next Arab summit conference will solve some of these problems to make the task of our leaders in the Arab world easier by creating a situation of clear understanding of the dangers facing us."

The summit is scheduled to be held in December in the Saudi capital, and will be preceded by a meeting of Arab foreign ministers and a session of the Arab League Council.

Shaykh Sabah said that as part of Kuwaiti efforts to make the summit successful, h.h. the amir had called on Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to personally attend the meeting, in response to the latter's call for Arab unity. Kuwait welcomed unity but considered it essential to resolve outstanding inter-Arab differences beforehand, he explained. Shaykh Sabah also reaffirmed his country's commitment to the seven-member Arab committee seeking an end to Iraq's four-year-old conflict with Iran, saying that the group was determined to halt the war by any means.

Deputy Prime Minister Meets With Syrian, PLO Envoys

LD152102 Kuwait KUNA in English 1452 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 15 (KUNA) — Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, received Saturday Ambassador of Syria 'Isa Darwish. Shaykh al-Sabah told reporters that the ambassador explained the outcome of Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i's visit to Damascus and his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The meeting also dealt with bilateral relations between the two countries. The minister stated as well that Mr. Darwish delivered to him a message from the Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Sahar'.

Later on Shaykh al-Sabah received also director of the Palestine Liberation Organization bureau to Kuwait 'Awni Battash and discussed latest developments in the Palestine issue.

The minister conferred also with Ambassador of Kuwait to Libya Ahmad al-Jassem [name and title as received] and discussed activities of the Kuwaiti mission in Libya and bilateral relations.

General Discusses Arms Purchase, Maneuvers

LD140947 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0720 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Kuwait 14 Sep (KUNA) — Major General 'Abdallah Farraj al-Ghanim, chief of general staff of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces, said today that contracts have been signed with a British company to provide the Kuwaiti naval forces with landing craft and they are due to arrive in Kuwait next October. Maj Gen al-Ghanim said in an interview with KUNA that the craft will be used to carry marines. There is a future plan to provide the Kuwaiti naval force with minesweepers.

Regarding a visit this Sunday to France, Major General al-Ghanim said the visit will last a week and comes in response to the visit which General Lacaze, the French chief of staff, paid a few months ago to Kuwait, and is part of our relationship with France — a visit which should have taken place last July. The chief of staff will be accompanied by a large number of Kuwaiti army officers.

The chief of staff dismisses any likelihood of Kuwaiti-French military agreements being signed during the visit. He said the visit is aimed at "discussing some of the previously signed agreements so that this visit may improve matters."

Major General al-Ghanim stressed that FS-1 aircraft will remain in service in Kuwait for the next 5 years "according to the Technical Committee of the Kuwaiti Air Force, after agreement had been reached with France to develop missiles and radar for these aircraft." Major General al-Ghanim denied reports that Kuwait intents to buy "Mirage 2000" planes and stressed it is satisfied with the FS-1 providing they are developed. Major General al-Ghanim described Kuwait's policy of diversifying sources of weapons as being "a wise and good policy."

He said: "The Arab world has had a variety of experiences regarding weapons and Kuwait and other Arab countries have benefited from them and diversified their weapon sources, which is a wise policy adopted by the political leadership in order not be tied down to one country." In his reply to a question regarding the technical difficulties facing the Kuwaiti Armed Forces in maintaining the multisource weapons, Major General al-Ghanim said "we have not faced any difficulties in maintaining the weapons we have obtained whether they were Soviet, French, American, or British."

He stressed Kuwait's commitment to the GCC joint defense charter and also the joint defense charter among the Arab countries. He said the Kuwait Army previously took part in the 1967 and 1973 wars against Israel.

Replying to a question about his assessment of the joint maneuvers of the GCC countries' forces he said "the maneuvers which took place in the United Arab Emirates were all right, and any action is bound to have some unavoidable failures at the beginning. The UAE carried out its duty as the host country of these maneuvers. However, there were some failures which were discussed at the meeting of the GCC chiefs of staff."

Major General al-Ghanim pointed out that "during October new Arabian Gulf maneuvers are to take place in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia after all the previous failures are taken into consideration, so that these maneuvers are conducted in the best manner." He expressed the hope that these maneuvers "will be better than the previous ones." He said "the purpose of the maneuvers is to harmonize the military units, unify fighting concepts, coordinate logistic methods, and unify military communications because of their necessary role in directing military battles, and to streamline future weapon organization, God willing."

The Kuwaiti chief of staff concluded his interview by referring to the compulsory military service law and described it as "the best act introduced by Kuwait." He said that "in fact, there were some doubts at the beginning about the success of this experiment; however, when this law was introduced we accepted with a positive spirit all the difficulties that cropped up at the beginning." He added that "the Kuwaiti youth felt their responsibilities so that batches of recruits became a regular flow and graduated in a regular and coordinated manner. The utilization of youth is important in all countries of the world."

Major General al-Ghanim said that "we in the Kuwaiti Army pay attention to training the individual for a tough, hard, and disciplined life and also to preparing the military for various fighting condictions, thus creating the fighting man." He stressed that the period of compulsory military service for university students and diploma graduates and others has not been altered; 1 year for university students and 2 for others.

SAUDI ARABIA

Reportage of Visit of Italian Foreign Minister

Arrives 15 Sep

LD160054 Riyadh SPA in English 1908 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Jidda, Sept 15, SPA — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti arrived in Jidda today on a two-day official visit to Saudi Arabia for talks with Saudi officials on bilateral relations and Middle East affairs. On his arrival, Andreotti was greeted by his Saudi counterpart Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, and senior officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Andreotti told SPA that his talks will also focus on the attitude of the European Economic Community (EEC) towards the Middle East issue. For his part, Prince Sa'ud said Andreotti's visit will provide a good chance to exchange views on means of strengthening bilateral relations. The deliberations will also concentrate on the Middle East issues, particularly since Italy will head the forthcoming session of the EEC, Prince Sa'ud said. The visit gains importance as it comes on the eve of the EEC foreign ministers conference due to take place in Brussels, Belgium on Monday.

Talks With Foreign Minister

LD160104 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2005 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Jidda, 15 Sep (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, conferred this evening at his office in Jidda with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti who is currently visiting the Kingdom. The current situation in the region and bilateral relations between the two countries were discussed during the meeting.

The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Rahman Mansuri, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs; Khalid al-Nasir al-Turki, the Kingdom's ambassador to Italy; and Maxmum Qabbani, head of the Western Department at the Foreign Ministry. It was also attended on the Italian side by Ambassador Bruno Bottai, director general of political affairs; Ambassador Dinato Dojiro [spelling as received], director general of the Financinal Affairs Department; and Marcello Salimei, Italian ambassador to the Kingdom.

Meets Defense Minister

LD161357 Riyadh SPA in English 1244 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Khamis Mushayt, Saudi Arabia, Sept 16, SPA — Saudi Second Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received here today the visiting Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti. After the meeting, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said they discussed bilateral relations and means of promoting cooperation, especially in the military sphere. The meeting was attended by Prince Khalid al-Faysal, governor of Assir Region, Saudi Ambassador to Italy Khalid al-Nasir al-Turki and the Italian ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Received by King

LD162009 Riyadh SPA in English 1900 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Jidda, Sept 16, SPA — HM King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received here today the visiting Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti. The audience was attended by Crown Prince 'Abdallah, the first deputy premier and commander of the National Guard, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Oil and Mineral Resources Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani. Later, Andreotti also conferred separately with Yamani.

Andreotti arrived here yesterday on a two-day official visit to Saudi Arabia for talks with Saudi officials on bilateral relations and questions of common interest.

Later, Andreotti met with Saudi Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and discussed with him means to promote economic cooperation between the two countries. They also discussed activities of the Saudi-Italian Commission on Economic Cooperation.

Meanwhile, Andreotti left Jidda after a two-day official visit to Saudi Arabia. He was seen off by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and senior officials

Prince Sa'ud on Visit of Italian Foreign Minister

LD162324 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Jidda 16 Sep (SPA) — The Italian minister of foreign affairs, Giulio Andreotti, left Jidda this evening after a 2-day visit to the Kingdom. Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal praised the Italian foreign minister's visit and described his talks with Saudi officials as extremely fruitful, especially the talks held with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. His highness said the Italian foreign minister's visit (? was normal) to review the issues concerning the two countries and bilateral relations between the Kingdom and Italy, which are flourishing, and the two countries' desire to develop relations in the interest of the two peoples.

His highness remarked that talks focused on the Middle East issue, and said that the two sides agreed on the seriousness of the situation if it remains unchanged, and that international efforts must be made to bring a just and honorable peace to the region, especially because Italy is to assume the presidency of the European Community in the next session. His Highness expressed his hope that there would be cooperation, not only between the Kingdom and Italy but between the European and Arab communities as a whole.

His highness added that his talks with the Italian minister included the Iraqi-Iran war, and that they have agreed to work within the international framework to bring a speedy end to the war which has lasted for a long time and has affected world stability and security. In a similar statement, the Italian foreign minister expressed his thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and said he shared his highness's statement regarding the contents of their talks, and especially the talks with Saudi officials led by his majesty the king.

ANSA Comments on Foreign Minister's Saudi Visit

AU151935 Rome ANSA in English 1932 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] (ANSA) Jidda, September 15 — Italy will use its six-month chairmanship of the European Community, which begins on January first, to speed up a solution to the Middle East crisis, according to Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti upon his arrival in Jidda today for a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia.

Conversing with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal who was at the airport to welcome him, the Farnesina chief said that the EC, now that the period of uncertainty surrounding the U.S. elections was over as well as the political crisis in Israel, did not want to dissapoint the expectations of moderate Arab circles. [sentence as received]

The two men also discussed possibilities for a peaceful solution to the Iran-Iraqi conflict which has had dramatic repercussions throughout the Gulf area. Andreotti and Al-Faysal also analyzed Saudi efforts to ease strains in the Horn of Africa.

Al-Faysal, for his part, praised Italian Government actions in the Middle East, especially for its held in the minesweeping mission underway in the Red Sea. [sentence as received]

Andreotti also had lengthy discussions today with Saudi leaders with regard to the world economic recession and agreed with them on the need to close the gap between the U.S. and the European recovery. Ways must also be found to combat unemployment, lower the excessively high interest rates and contain the value of the dollar through gradual adjustments which are harmonized and guided so as not to spark further inflationary thrusts.

During today's talks the problem of burgeoning Third World indebtedness was also touched upon and it will be the chief (?theme) of coming meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Both sides agreed that the high interest rates were compromising exports from the developing countries and undermining their efforts at solvency. Both Andreotti and Al-Faysal agree that to solve the problem of indebtedness, both the industrialized and the oil-producing countries must make a substantial contribution, even though in differing forms. Tomorrow, Italy's diplomatic chief will meet with King Fahd and the crown prince and prior to his departure for Rome will confer with the top Saudi leaders on a series of bilateral matters.

Trade between Italy and Saudi Arabia has exceeded six billion dollars and a multitude of projects are in the works which will see Italy participating in Saudi development plans. Italy has already been active here in the field of infrastructures, and cooperation is now expected to broaden to include advanced technologies in the telecommunications field.

Crown Prince Abdallah Returns From Syria

LD161956 Riyadh SPA in English 1902 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Jidda, Sept 16, SPA — Crown Prince Abdallah, the first deputy premier and commander of the National Guard, returned home this afternoon at the end of a 24-hour trip to Syria during which he held talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and vice-president 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on bilateral relations and current developments in the Middle East region.

Before visiting Syria Prince Abdallah made a six-day tour of Turkey where he held talks with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal on bilateral ties and questions of mutual concern. He also met with Turkish President Kenan Evren.

On his arrival, the crown prince was greeted by Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, public works minister, Prince Badr ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy commander of the guard and prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, the interior minister, and Prince Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Makkah Region, and senior officials.

Petroleum Minister Discusses Market, OPEC

For reportage on the visit to Mexico by Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and natural resources, see the Mexico section of the 13 September Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Interior Ministry Reports Release of Arrested Iraqis

LD152159 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2102 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Riyadh 15 Sep (SPA) — The following statement was issued by the Interior Ministry: On the evening of last Wednesday, 12 September 1984, a fist fight in which stones were used took place between some Iranian and Iraqi pilgrims in Medina. The police intervened, separated them immediately, and arrested a group of Iraqi pilgrims because one of the Iranian pilgrims was seriously hurt. Some of the Iraqi pilgrims were also injured. Those arrested were questioned, and it did not appear they were the ones who had assaulted the person who was hurt, so they were released because of lack of evidence.

On Friday, 14 September 1984 the Iranian haj died of his wounds.

Spokesman Condemns Attack on Citizens in Spain

LD162004 Riyadh SPA in English 1926 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Riyadh, Sept 16 SPA — A Saudi official spokesman tonight condemned an attack on two Saudi citizens by unidentified gunmen, while the two were seating at a cafe last night in Marbella City in Spain. He described the attack as an irresponsible action and said there was no doubt that the Spanish authorities will take necessary action against the assailants and put things on the right track in such a tourist city, which had been enjoying peace and stability. Of the two Saudi citizens, Nasir 'Abd al-'Ali al-Shihri died on his way to the hospital while his companion Khalil Ibrahim was reported in a stable condition after an operation.

UAE

Iranian Minister Arrives in Dubayy

LD170956 Tehran IRNA in English 0945 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — Deputy foreign minister, 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, heading a delegation arrived in Dubayy Sunday night and was welcomed by the United Arab Emirates officials and consul general of the Islamic Republic of Iran in UAE. Besharati, who is carrying a written message from Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i to Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan, ruler of the Arab Emirates, will call on and negotiate with him.

Petroleum Minister Leaves For Baghdad

GF141453 Doha QNA in Arabic 1400 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Sep (QNA) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE petroleum and mineral resources minister, left Abu Dhabi today for Baghdad on a 2-day visit. He will make a tour of a number of OPEC member countries. In a predeparture statement, Dr al-'Utaybah said that during his visit he will discuss the latest developments on the situation in the petroleum market. He added that he will also discuss with Qasim Ahmad Taqi, Iraqi oil minister, the methods of preserving stability in the international petroleum market and of defending the OPEC official price structure. He went on to say that his visit comes within the framework of the tour he undertook last month in which he led an OPEC delegation, which included the Algerian and the Venezuelan petroleum ministers, to Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran, and Libya.

YAR

Minister of State Returns from USSR

GF151836 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali 'Abd al-Rahman al-Bahr, minister of state, chairman of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation, and member of the Standing Committee, returned to San'a' this morning after a 4-day visit to the Soviet Union, during which he conveyed a message from Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, to Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers. In a statement to SABA' news agency, the brother minister pointed out that the fields of cooperation between our country and the Soviet Union and means of developing and consolidating this cooperation were discussed during the visit.

Soviet-Made Mine Discovered in Southern Suez Gulf

NC161850 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1846 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Sep (MENA) — The Armed Forces General Command announced that the French [minesweeping] unit has discovered a Soviet-made mine in the southern area of the Suez Gulf and that it has been detonated.

Paris: Mine From 1973 War

LD162122 Paris Domestic Service in French 2100 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] An hour ago I announced to you that the French Navy had found a Soviet-made mine to the south of the Gulf of Suez. In fact, this mine is reported to date from the Israeli-Egyptian war of October 1973. This was reported by reliable sources in Cairo. We remind you that a minefield was set up in 1973 in this area of the Suez Gulf. It appears that this bears no relationship to the mysterious devices which damaged 17 ships in July in the Red Sea and Suez Gulf area.

Second Mine Found

NC171252 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1232 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, stated that two mines have been found. One was discovered by the French minesweeping unit which detonated the mine because it was not safe to salvage it. It was a Soviet-made mine of the a.m.d. 500 type.

Abu Ghazalah said: The other mine was found by the British minesweeping unit. We are now trying to salvage it. We have not yet identified its origin because its serial number and the name of the country which manufactured it are not visible on photographs that were taken of the mine. We hope we will succeed in salvaging it, and then we will have an opinion to give. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah was answering queries by People's Assembly members on the Red Sea mines during the People's Assembly session held under speaker Rif'at al-Mahjub today.

'Ali Delivers Government Policy Statement to Assembly

NC150813 [Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 0805 GMT on 15 September links up with other Cairo transmitters in preparation for a live relay of Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali's delivery of the Egyptian Government policy statement to the People's Assembly. 'Ali enters the hall at 0812 GMT.

At 0814 GMT, the session is opened and the previous decree on the formation of the current Cabinet is read.

At 0820 GMT, Speaker 'Abdallah al-Mahjub begins speaking and congratulates Prime Minister 'Ali on appointments and praises the Cabinet's accomplishments. He expresses full confidence that the Cabinet will meet the expectations of President Mubarak, the People's Assembly, and the Egyptian people. The speaker then reads decrees on the amendment of laws, followed by a Koranic recitation and a moment of silence commemorating the deaths of two Assembly members. Names of replacements are read, and the new members are sworn in. The speaker then mourns the death of first Egyptian President Major General Najib and a moment of silence is observed.

At 0835 GMT, Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali begins delivering the Egyptian Government policy statement.

Prime Minister's Address

NC151040 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0835 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Government policy statement delivered by Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali to the People's Assembly session in Cairo — live]

[Text] Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the respected Assembly: It gives me the greatest pleasure to meet today with the representatives of the great Egyptian people, to present to them the government policy statement, and to submit to them the government's vision and its action plan for the coming phase.

Before doing so, I would like to express thanks for the welcome accorded by your respected Assembly to this government. This indicates that we are working for the sake of a common objective that will be achieved, God willing, with the people's determination and their cooperation. I also would like to express the sincerest congratulations to the new Assembly for the confidence the people have given to its members, for the trust in which they have been entrusted of expressing the people's hopes and aspirations, and of continuing the fulfillment of its objectives through the action plan for a better tomorrow. I wish the respected Assembly a session full of activity and achievements for the sake of our dear Egypt.

I also would like to thank the former Assembly for the role it had played and for its achievements during the third legislative chamber. On the other hand, loyalty requires that I should praise the great efforts exerted by the former Cabinet — the prime minister and members. [applause]. The late Dr Fu'ad Muhyi al-Din worked for his country until the last moment of his life. He was a model of sacrifice and an example of giving. Members of that Cabinet spared no time and efforts for the sake of the homeland's dignity. They deserve from the homeland all gratitude and sincerest thanks. The former Cabinet fully implemented the tasks of the first 2 years of the 5-year plan for economic and social development. It accomplished a great achievement in all fields.

Mr Speaker of the Assembly, brother and sister members of the respected Assembly, our meeting today comes at the start of a new and important stage of executive national action. It aims in the first place at the prosperity of this homeland, and the fulfillment of its people's aspiration for a dignified life. It aims at making today better than yesterday and seeking a better tomorrow through work and construction [al-bina'].

The government, while presenting this policy statement to your respected Assembly, takes into consideration the objective circumstances under which all of us are living and the sincere desire to exert the utmost efforts to carry out its responsibility. It is guided in this by its commitment to the president's letter regarding the formation of the government, issued on 16 July 1984, and his excellency's instructions to the Cabinet's first session on 17 July 1984.

This government policy statement will include the principal points and the broadlines of the government's policy. The two deputy prime ministers and ministers will present detailed statements during discussions of this statement.

Mr Speaker of the Assembly, brother and sister members of the respected Assembly, the president of the Republic has defined the aims, tasks, and policies of the coming stage of executive national action as follows:

1. Increasing democratic practices and protecting them from infringements and aberrations.

2. Rebuilding the Egyptian man within the framework of a comprehensive concept.

3. Steering the Egyptian economy in a course which safeguards our present and future, relieves the suffering of the predominant majority of our people, and secures social justice and equal opportunitieis for all in an atmosphere of stability, honesty, and integrity. All priorities should be clearly defined and all efforts should be channeled to increase production, raise productivity, curb consumption, improve services, and to rehabilitate the infrastructure.

4. Pursuing scientific planning and forming all policies within the overall perspective of long-term national goals.

5. Allowing the new Egyptian generations the chance to serve their country, develop it, and move it ahead to broader horizons.

Mr Speaker of the Assembly, brother and sister members of the respected Assembly, the government of the majority party, the NDP government, believes in the importance of the opposition — no democracy is possible without opposition. The government believes that a plurality of opinion is not only desirable, it is essential to vitalize thought, to choose the best alternatives, and to develop diverse ways of dealing with our problems and issues. The solution of such problems and issues is our common goal — a goal worthy of our desire to bring prosperity to Egypt and its people.

The government of the majority expects and welcomes a constructive and objective opposition which lights our path, participates in reconstruction with its ideas and cadres, determines the facts, and helps the government overcome the country's problems and achieve prosperity for the people.

Against this background, we are fully committed to respect the role of constructive opposition in speeding development and promoting the dignity of the Egyptians. In line with its democracy, Egypt today enjoys a stability that was firmly laid by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. This stability is meant to safeguard national endeavors against uncertainty and sharp policy changes. It is also meant to promote innovation in a way that gives momentum to our national efforts and paves a path suitable to our conditions, needs, and resources.

Mr Speaker of the Assembly, brother and sister members of the respected Assembly, out of dedication to democracy, as the guideline of our work, the government absolutely believes that the freedom of the media, and above all the press, is essential for the freedom of expression which is safeguarded by the Constitution. Hence, the government intends to protect this freedom and furnish all that is necessary for it to undertake its political and social role.

The government is hoping that the coming phase will see an objective media involved in constructive criticism that proposes alternative solutions to our problems. This is how the media can contribute effectively in promoting our democratic march.

Mr Speaker, members of the esteemed Assembly, adherence to constitutional legitimacy is a step taken in the right direction of submitting to the law and of scrupulously abiding by its provisions.

Let supremacy be for the law alone. Then, citizens will not be distinguished from each other, except in light of their knowledge and work. Nor will the citizens owe fealty to anything other than their homeland. These things are connected with what you have witnessed, that is, with the dedication of his excellency the president and his government to ensuring respect for and the independence of the judiciary authority. These efforts are also directed toward guaranteeing the immunity of the members of the judiciary authority. Thus, all the compatriots will be reassured that they are secure in the sanctuary of the judiciary authority. His excellency the president of the Republic has emphasized on several occasions his pride in Egypt's judges, who have been dedicating their efforts to the service of their country.

The government has promulgated a law amending the law for the judiciary authority. The [new] law has enabled the Supreme Judiciary Council to resume exercising its powers. Under this law, it has been decided that judiciary immunity will be extended to the members of the public prosecution. Furthermore, your esteemed Assembly has passed the law for the Council of State in order to consolidate the council's independence.

The government scrupulously oversees the implementation of its policy calling for building more court houses in order to bring the administering of justice closer to the citizens.

The government also believes in the need for laying down a timetable for the development of the services that are dispensed by the courts and by the other organs of the Justice Ministry, particularly the departments in charge of the declaration of real estate tax. Therefore, we will immediately begin preparing a model for a sophisticated real estate tax declaration department. This department will be provided with all its requirements so far as a site and material and manpower potentials are concerned. These potentials will enable the department to offer services no less effective than those rendered by similar departments in the advanced countries. Replicas of this model will then be built in a number of places in order to lay the groundwork for expanding the construction of buildings along this model, after a study has been conducted on the costs and benefits of the implementation of this scheme.

Mr Speaker, members of the esteemed Assembly, the matter of economic development has occupied and still occupies a prominent place at the top of the priorities set by his excellency the president and the NDP, as well as by the NDP's successive governments. This matter has received the discussion and study needed to establish the real problems that the Egyptian economy is facing.

Opinion has settled on the paramount importance of precise scientific planning to tackle these problems scientifically to fulfill the objectives of society. Your esteemed Assembly has endorsed the 1982-87 5-year plan economic and social development plans. These plans have specified their major targets — and the government scrupulously adheres to these targets and seeks to implement them with complete determination. On this basis, the philosophy of national action in the economic and social domains in the coming phase will continue to lean on the bases and outlines adopted by the present 5-year plan, to wit:

— Concentrating on commodity production to augment the commodities offered, particularly in that this action represents the most efficient way to lessen the need for imports and to increase the export strength in a manner that would gradually lead to self-reliance. This concentration on increasing commodity production cannot just be achieved by intensifying investments in the area of commodity production. This concentration on production can also be achieved by raising the level of productivity, improving performance, and using dormant potential.

— Increasing the Egyptian economy's capacity to absorb [production and investment] by providing the basic material infrastructure that constitutes an incentive for development and an incentive for investment and not an obstacle in its course. The lack of an infrastructure creates bottlenecks which adversely affect development and its aims; hence, competition and balancing the development of the productive services sector and the services sector with the aims of commodities production will remain a firm basis for the planning efforts.

— Strengthening the aspects of social development by developing and supporting the educational, health, and cultural services, religious and youth care, security and justice, with an emphasis on the housing services, sewage, and drinking water.

If the development plan is the framework that organizes the economic and social action to achieve the masses' aspirations and hopes for a better future, and if this is the best scientific method to confront, deal with, and solve the problems which the Egyptian economy is facing, then the issue of production is closely linked to all this. I might not be exaggerating if I say that this issue is the fundamental measure of success. It is the real challenge facing all of us — the government and people — along our course aimed at rectifying the economic situation.

The government's view of this issue stems from the following considerations:

1. Production is the real prop of any strong economic order. The volume and quality of production are the true indicators of society's progress and the ability of its economy to face its needs locally and abroad. Production is the prop that enables the state to deal with the outside world from a position of strength. It fortifies it against all forms of pressure and bargaining.

2. Production is capable of overcoming inflation, controlling and absorbing it. It is also the basic method for self-reliance and achieving self-sufficiency which saves the state the financial resources it spends on imports. It is the acknowledged method to bridge the gap between imports and exports and hence achieving a balance in the balance of payments.

3. Success or failure of the development plan depends on our ability to produce. There is no development without production which achieves the capital accumulation necessary for economic growth. No matter what is the state's ability to bring in foreign economic assistance for its projects, it only represents a very small part, no matter how large it is, of what the state needs to finance its projects. Experience proves that not a single country on earth is ready to carry out development for another people who cannot develop itself by itself.

4. A society of producers is a society of free people. It is a society that achieves the necessary balance between political democracy and social freedom, and makes available the possibility of a just distribution among members [of society].

5. Production is an exemplary means for solving the difficult equation between wages and prices. It gives wages their real buying power and is also capable of containing price increases. Wage increases without production returns are a source of inflation and chaotic prices.

6. Loyalty calls on us to draw attention to the seriousness of continued dependence on revenues from services or revenues which are not subject to direct control by society, but which are more or less subject to foreign considerations, such as income from tourism, the Suez Canal, oil, and foreign labor markets. It would be even more serious if these revenues were not spent on production but on consumption goods.

In light of the foregoing considerations, the primary task before the government will be to increase production by an average higher than was achieved in the past, and to support and consolidate society's production foundations. During the short time since its formation, the government has been following a scientific method, massing all energies in order to achieve this goal and to eliminate all difficulties, allowing the people to utilize these energies. The coming year, God willing, will witness organized and constant efforts to create an atmosphere appropriate for utilizing the energies available to the private and public sectors.

Speaker of the People's Assembly, brothers and sisters, members of the honorable Assembly, completing the implementation of the 5-year plan — which is entering its 3d year — and ensuring the achievement of its goals in full requires coordination and links between various fields of political policies. It also requires these policies, the bases on which they are founded, and the objectives being sought to be stable in order to assure the citizens and to make decisionmaking on a sound economy possible. This will likewise enable production to progress without shocks or delay, which result from conflicting policies and decisions.

The government is eager to include in its statement a clear definition of the policies it will follow and the measures it will take in various economic fields.

Before outlining details of these policies, allow me to point out the objectives for which these policies were drawn up and which will represent firm, basic principles for all the efforts the government exerts.

The objective in the coming phase is to turn the wheel of implementation in quantity, variety, quality, and cost. What is required in the coming phase is to increase the volume of accomplishments by increasing the number of projects presented to the state, which individuals decide to set up. There must be mobilization of government and individual efforts to speed up project implementation so that more national income is added to investments, while a small amount of these investments will not be utilized for compulsory reasons.

Reduction of the cost of investments: We are confident of this homeland's sons' ability to control this cost and effect considerable savings in the cost of construction, installations, and providing equipment for projects. The government aims to substantially exploit the material and manpower energies, because it is not reasonable to seek additional energies and incur new investment expenditure while leaving the available energy unexploited. Also, it is not reasonable to leave those able to work unemployed.

Control of current expenditure: The sole justification for any expenditure must be its possible revenue. The government aims to ensure stability and security for public and private enterprises, because it is unacceptable to make amendments in economic legislation without participation by the sectors to which these laws will be applied, and without giving these businesses time to prepare and adapt to new situations and positions.

1. Financial Policy: The goal of reducing the current deficit in the general budget, which was thoroughly studied last month:
To achieve the goals defined by the plan was a basic aim of the former governments and will remain so for this government. The government, in order to tackle this issue within the framework of rationalization of expenditure, has decided to reduce the government's expenditure by 10 percent. In addition, the new 1984-85 budget instructions do not allow any of the appropriations to be exceeded, regardless of the reasons. The government will be strict in applying these instructions.

Moreover, the government intends to take several measures, including, primarily, increasing sovereign revenues by increasing the number of producers and by promoting the competence of tax and customs offices so that the government will obtain its fair share of profits. The government will not impose direct taxes or fees except on luxury commodities. The government will increase the revenues of public investments by promoting a competent administration of these investments and rationalization of investment expenditure. This will be done by reviewing the costs of investments and following up the projects so that they will be finished on a timely basis. The government will act to ensure that subsidies are only given to people entitled to it. Any subsidies given to the affluent class represents a waste and a luxury that we cannot afford. The government will ensure firm supervision of current expenditure and it will act to stabilize the legislations pertaining to customs and taxes.

2.: Monetary and Credit Policy: The government policy in this regard is based on the following:

a. The Central Bank will continue to play its leading role in directing credits, supporting banks and strengthening their capabilities, tackling their problems, and supporting their increasing contributions to development projects, God willing.

b. The government will take care of the banking sector because this is the basic channel to attract the savings of Egyptians working abroad and in Egypt. The government will also protect and take care of these savings. We hope that through close cooperation the banks will continue to contribute to developing Egyptian savings in Egypt and to encourage the flow of savings from Egyptians working abroad.

c. The government will encourage the banking sector to establish investment projects and to promote projects of land reclamation, agricultural produce, and industry.

d. Encouraging the banking sector to utilize its organized channels, which extend throughout the Republic, to finance the national project the government will set up in order to increase the number of producers in small towns and villages.

e. Encouraging the banking sector to guide investment operations in constructing new housing areas outside cities and on deserts adjacent to production sites, and in setting up modern industrial areas.

f. Continuing the preferential interest rate policy with regard to banking facilities and loans in favor of production projects, services, and sectors.

3. International Economic Relations: International economic relations contribute toward increasing revenues for development purposes, and consequently raise the cost of living. Furthermore, the interaction involved in international relations makes it difficult, if not impossible, for our society to be isolated from the influence of the outside world's economy. Most of the developing countries do need technology and modern expertise and methods for use in all production and development walks of life. Foreign trade constitutes the basis of these relations in terms of imports and exports.

Once again we return to the issue of production. As long as production is unable to meet the basic demands of the masses, and as long as we consume more than we produce and our imports consequently exceed our exports, the deficit in the trade balance — and consequently in the balance of payments — will continue. It suffices to point out here that the amount of our imports is almost double the amount of our exports. This is reflected in the drain on our hard currency resources. This has a direct effect on the plan and on the possibilities of attaining its objectives.

Although there has been a positive trend over the past 2 years in terms of curbing the balance of payments deficit, this trend totally depended on improving the service area in the balance of payments. Although [words indistinct] possibility of [increasing] exports in the next stage is closely linked with the development and promotion of industrial and agricultural production, it also believes in the mutual influence between expansion in exports and expansion in production.

Achieving an improvement in the balance of payments in the long run depends on making moves in all directions. The first of these moves is increasing the value of export goods. This, of course, should be contingent upon the rationalization of imports in accordance with the plan's priorities in order to serve the production objectives in the long run; and second, in providing further sources of financing to encourage exports and production, to eliminate all bureaucratic obstacles that impede any increase in exports, and to provide the incentives necessary for encouraging exports, which would also bring in greater revenues from competitive economic activities, particularly import activity.

5. [as heard]: The government will continue to consult with those concerned with exports, and to hear their viewpoints — whether they are in the public, private, or cooperative sectors — and to agree to everything that will activate export measures.

As to the other side of freign trade, namely imports, the government realizes its importance in providing various medium and major commodities for development. It also realizes its role in providing a number of basic and necessary commodities for consumption by the broad base of the people. This is why the plan has allowed a yearly increase in imports of 4 percent. The import policy focuses on those commodities, and not on luxury or recreation commodities, and those that do not have locally-produced substitutes.

The government has one aim which must be achieved. This is to achieve national production that will gradually replace imports. By strengthening the production base, encouraging national production, and encouraging it to rise up to international standards we can quickly and seriously influence the deficit in the balance of payments. There are numerous and varied scopes for utilizing the resources in the industrial, agricultural, construction, tourism, and pharmaceutical sectors to produce substitutes for imports — in the necessary quantities and to specifications. It is imperative to immediately start utilizing these resources. When national production becomes available in the required quantity and quality, then it must be given priority to protect national investments and resources. Hence, the government will continue its policy of encouraging national production so that it will become capable of replacing imports. It will immediately respond to every serious demand to ban illegal competition to national products.

On the other hand, government efforts will not stop at improving the balance of payment situation. Efforts will include the balance of invisible [ghayr al-manzura] transactions and the balance of capital transactions by continuing to adopt any measures that will increase those savings of Egyptians abroad that are remitted through banks. [The government] will encourage tourism so as to increase income in foreign currencies. It will continue to work to increase the Suez Canal income without this affecting the desire to encourage world navigation. The government will, through the ministries concerned, continue to increase capital transfers — easy-term loans and grants — in a manner that is in line with our ability to export and will help in having an income in foreign currencies while implementing the necessary controls to guarantee the best use of these loans and grants.

4.[as heard]: Investment policy: National economic and social performance depends on the best use of natural, financial, and human resources to achieve satisfactory levels of development in all its economic and social aspects and in accordance with the upcoming objectives and priorities. The Egyptian economic situation indicates that the private sector has a large portion of these resources. It is using it in its contribution to most of the activities and sectors in the national economy. Without an active and productive private sector, economic development cannot be furthered at rates in line with the needs of society. At the same time, the contribution of the private sector to the fulfillment of the development targets will not have the required effectiveness without an efficient public sector that is capable of providing the basic and necessary material and social infrastructure.

The stepping up of development and the realization of the growth averages we require demand, undoubtedly, the attraction and increase of investments. This increase is actually linked to several matters, including the participation of all factions of society in the effort to increase real savings and government revenues, to limit government expenditure, provide the revenues for investment, and encourage the private sector to participate in development projects.

The government's policy is also based on increasing the amount of revenue allocated for public or private investments according to the following bases: creating new channels to attract the private sector's savings and channel it into investment projects, and increasing the banking sector's — particularly the foreign and joint sectors — contribution to investment revenues. In this regard, after restricting imports a huge financial profit has become available to the foreign and joint banking sectors. The government will do its best to encourage this sector to use these profits in investment projects within the framework of the plan, and will provide it with all the guarantees dictated by the nature of banking activities.

It is necessary to increase the dependence on our internal revenues to finance the investment projects in addition to the loans we obtain from international organizations and friendly states under easy terms.

We will work to cut down government expenditure and further apply scientific administrative methods in managing public funds spending in a matter that will ensure the required services with less expense.

In addition to providing the investments required for the plan as a way of overcoming the difficulties confronting the Egyptian economy and realizing high averages of economic and social development, it is necessary to exert efforts to create an atmosphere which encourages investment and increases the efficiency of exploiting it, particularly through the development of manpower. Egypt's 1984 population is 47 million. It increases by 1 million approximately every 8 months. Our manpower is 12 million persons, approximately only one quarter of the population. The government is aware that there are various reasons for the low number of people engaged in production. However, it also realizes that the progress of the family and an improvement in its standard of living can only be realized by increasing the number of producers and by increasing each one's production capacity. Therefore, the government finds it necessary to begin an ambitious program to encourage the Egyptian family in the countryside and cities to increase the number of its members contributing to the production process. Practical application has actually begun in some Egyptian villages through the scientific planning prepared by the Agriculture Ministry. The Ministries of Agriculture, Local Government, Social Affairs, and Administrative Development will unite efforts to prepare a comprehensive national program for expanding the experiment, which has produced very encouraging results.

The government is also contemplating utilizing the energies of youths and graduates by training them in special centers so as to make them productive. The government will provide the necessary funds for production equipment and the means for meeting requirements and marketing the produce. The government will provide the care needed during the first phase of their production activity.

The government is also planning to utilize the youths' energies during the school summer vacation, which is one of the longest in the world. The Higher Council for Youth Welfare is preparing a national program for utilizing a part of the summer vacation for training youths in production and in implementing some vital projects.

Finally, the government is aware of the fact that early training in basic skills is the only way in which to create skilled labor. Therefore, the government has requested the research centers and specialists in manpower promotion to begin immediately a feasibility study on setting aside a period in elementary studies to help students get early training in some production skills. The government will immediately survey the possibilities for professional training, under the supervision of several ministries and organizations, with the objective of linking the training centers in geographical areas with production areas.

Providing the appropriate conditions for increasing the revenues from the public sector: The public sector is primarily contributing to the development plan. It will continue to contribute, God willing, to achieving the goals of economic and social development. The total investments in the Egyptian public sector by the end of 1984 amounted to 9.10 billion pounds, as registered. This amount will be double when comparing it with market prices. Investments are expected to reach 35 billion pounds by the end of the 5-year plan. Part of these investments have been financed through loans, which we have obtained from abroad, and by banking establishments at home. Consequently, there are yearly commitments to pay interest and loan installments. It is necessary that the projects financed by these funds be capable of defraying these commitments.

These investments must be a source of blessing for our dear people, giving abundant production, excellent goods, and the surplus to be used to increase projects by improving their administration, increasing production, and eliminating obstacles in the way of efficient utilization of available resources.

Many conferences and studies have been held in the last 20 years to improve the administration in the public sector and to free it from the restrictions hindering its progress. We will be satisfied with this number of conferences and studies, and we will immediately begin an executive program in every company to help the welfare of workers through the product of their work and through the surplus they will achieve.

Taking care of and protecting the private sector: The government's interest in the private sector and in providing an atmosphere suitable for increasing and backing its activities has been definitely proven. The state has also affirmed its commitment to encouraging this sector. This was clear in the president's statements and instructions on several occasions. In addition, the sanctity of private property and capital has been constitutionally and legally settled. Legislation has been issued guaranteeing utmost stability and reassurance for private activities in the economic field to enable it to forge ahead with productive businesses. The new cabinet formation reflects the state's interest in boosting investment because it is the logical approach to boost production. The Higher Investment Committee was formed to draft the guidelines and general policy for private, foreign, and joint investment. This committee also aims to encourage investment, achieve further stability in economic policies, eliminate obstacles, and make quick decisions.

The government realizes that the Egyptian private sector possesses a huge potential both in the agricultural and industrial sectors, as well as in the savings of Egyptians working abroad. Consequently, the government will encourage agricultural producers to diversify their produce, take care of their crops, and apply the most modern agricultural technology. The organized private sector represented by banks, cooperatives, and individuals is capable of participating in implementing ambitious programs to exploit reclaimed land, and to reclaim approximately 1 million feddans [approximately 1.038 million acres] through the mobilization of this sector and incentives.

There is no doubt that we are in a race against time to increase the present area of green land. It is imperative to add new 120,000 feddans [approximately 124,560 acres] annually to meet the needs of population growth. The government, therefore, is preparing a program for encouraging investment in agriculture and land reclamation in order to facilitate the private sector's participation in this sphere with the aim of investment and not speculation [applause] and to ensure that all facilities take care of pioneers who contribute to increasing agricultural production in Egypt.

Finally, the Egyptian private sector — which includes Egypt's sons working abroad — has an immense savings, which they accumulated from their work and efforts in development in various countries. This sector is looking for opportunities to invest this fund. The government, therefore, is preparing a program in participation with Egyptian banks to ensure organized investment opportunities for these funds in the form of farms, small industrial projects, and services in order to meet the demands of small investors of Egyptian sons abroad, to ensure their future, and to encourage them to participate in development efforts in the dear homeland.

The Egyptian private sector possesses well over half of the production potential in the industrial domain. This sector, however, is facing a number of problems that affect its ability to participate in increasing production. Some of these problems are general, from which both the public and private industrial sectors suffer. Other problems are only faced by the private industrial sector.

Since its formation, the government entrusted a ministerial group with reviewing all the studies that have been made on national industry. This group was also instructed to continually hold meetings with the industrial trade unions, the Chamber of Industry, and businessmen's organizations in order to reach the following within a period not exceeding 2 months:

a. To facilitate measures for obtaining licenses for industrial projects so that the licenses are granted without delay as soon as an application for investment is submitted.

To eliminate the problems facing industrialists in establishing factories — the most important of which are the problems of acquiring cheap land in industrial areas — to provide power energy and major utilities; to settle differences over customs duties on imports during the construction priod; to eliminate the problems facing the factories at the start of production — the most important of which is providing production requirements — to protect national industry against illegitimate competition by imports; and to provide care for national production during the first phases of the operation.

The government's policy in subsidizing consumer goods: The subsidy policy is based on subsidizing basic commodities. It means that the state will bear the difference between the real cost of goods and the price at which they are offered to the citizens. The state will thus ensue a suitable level of consumption by people with limited incomes in order to bring about the greatest possible amount of social justice. The subsidies the state provided in the 1982-1983 budget amounted to 2.04 billion pounds. At the same time, the subsidy policy has a negative effect on the pricing structure, the fair distribution of revenues, and on the state's budget and investment. This is in addition to the established abuse of subsidized commodities and their receipt and consumption by capable groups with high incomes, who should not enjoy these subsidies. This, consequently, has increased the burden of direct and indirect subsidies on the state's general budget by consuming a large part of the state's revenues. Previous governments have adopted several steps for rationalizing the subsidies. This government will follow the same policy in order to reach a productive subsidy in its final stages and to further ensure the recept of the subsidy by those who deserve it, in respect of the commodities consumed by the broad base of the people.

6. Price Policy: The question of prices is among the important issues affecting the masses' interests because it is linked with the standard of living and fair distribution on one side, and economic performance on the other. In the current world economic situation, any state's economy cannot but be effected by the world situation. Prices of imported goods are constantly increasing, be they raw materials commodities, machines, or manufactured goods. The government will implement the policy which began with the plan and which aims to check high prices whenever possible and to create reasonable price relationships between various commodities and services, particularly between prices of the public and other sectors. The government is seeking to reduce the deficit in the general budget and to achieve a balance between the increasing currency in circulation and increase in production in order to absorb society's surplus purchasing power and to bring about further price stability. The government will likewise rationalize consumption in order to reduce increasing demand so that consumption will increase in proportion to the population growth and the increases in income. Prices will be affected by increasing production, by rationalizing costs, and by improving quality in various sectors.

7. Agriculture and Food Security: Speaker of the People's Assembly, brothers and sisters, members of the honorable Assembly, providing a greater amount of food for the people of Egypt through a solid foundation of national production presents the greatest challenge to scientists, experts, and farmers in this homeland.

We are capable, God willing, of bearing the consequences of this challenge. Therefore, the government commits itself to the following policies:

a. It will expedite the cultivation of the reclaimed lands because this will add to production. By the end of 1984, each feddan of reclaimed land will begin producing and yielding. [applause]

b. It will increase the productivity of old and new lands by applying the most modern scientific methods of the international and national research centers. To do this, the government has prepared a timetable with definite features to use highly productive seeds in producing wheat, maize, rice, sugar, herbs, lentils, and garden products. The year 1984 will see more production in the present cultivated areas, with no additional requirements.

The efforts of Egypt's sincere scientists and experts are capable, God willing, of limiting the import of many foodstuffs and even of developing some foodstuffs — as happened last year with citrus, potatoes, strawberries, beans, medicinal plants, and vegetables. More will be added to this list in the near future, God willing.

c. It will expand the exploitation of mechanized agriculture in all stages, starting from plowing the land until harvesting. The use of agricultural machinery has become a necessity imposed by reality which is characterized by the high cost of manpower and the need to increase the number of crop rotations, and to compensate for loss in soil and crops.

In implementation of the directions of the president of the Republic, a detailed plan has been prepared to set up 150 mechanized agricultural stations. Some of them were immediately set up. The others will be set up according to fixed timetables. The Agriculture Ministry is preparing, in cooperation with the Ministries of Industry and War Production, a study of the future needs for agricultural machinery and of the capacities available to the national industry to produce and assemble some machines. The economically feasible projects will be implemented in the near future.

Efforts will be mobilized to increase the agricultural crop. A plan has been implemented for the first time in Egypt — through the cooperation of the Ministries of Agriculture, Education, Local Government, and Administrative Development — to mobilize the manpower of the sons of Egypt at various stages of education for picking the cotton crop. The dazzling results are auguring well. This plan will be applied to other crops, God willing.

In confirmation of the Agriculture Ministry's policy on the inevitability of coordination among the productive sectors, the ministry is preparing, in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Petroleum, a program of its needs for fertilizers until the year 2000, and, consequently, a program for the production of these fertilizers in local factories. The coming years will see a clear cut in our dependence abroad for fertilizers needed in agriculture.

The government would also like to reiterate its commitment to influence the prices of agricultural products by increasing and marketing the products through channels, which will consequently offer them to the consumer at lower prices. Therefore, the government undertakes to give the lion's share of the production of fruits and vegetables from its farms to the Ministry of Supplies so that the latter can sell them in the cooperatives at prices which low-income people can afford. Finally, the government has completed the drawing up of the plan to support national production of meat, poultry, eggs, and fish. This plan is being meticulously implemented. The initial results of the implementation augur well. For the first time we had a supply of eggs that exceeded the demand and we hope — God willing, and thanks to the efforts of those working in the public and private sectors — to achieve the same objective in the sector of poultry and fish, particularly after we have drawn up the necessary plans for remedying numerous problems which face the national farms' production and marketing.

8. Industrialization and Beefing up National Industries: At the end of the 5 years, the plan aims to achieve an annual rate of increase of 9.5 percent in the industrial sector. The government's policy toward this sector is focused on:

— Achieving speedy development rates in the conversion industries [sina'at tahwiliyah] and on achieving balance and integration between the production of consumer goods that are necessary for the masses and the intermediary and investment goods by developing the existing productive organs;

— Expanding the base of the export industries which are distinguished for their competitive position in world markets such as aluminum, textiles, foodstuff, and ores;

— Developing and elevating the industries that serve the sectors of construction, building, and utilities;

— Focusing on mining activities and [word indistinct] commodities, particularly in the field of discoveries and the search for natural wealth with the aim of exploiting them economically and of quickly utilizing the sites where wealth has been discovered;

— Beefing up the small and professional industries by ensuring their production requirements for the sake of local and export marketing within the framework of the established export policies so that the plan's objectives can be attained;

— Encouraging national industries by taking steps to ensure that national commodities are produced to the required specifications, quantities, and qualities needed by the local market as well as to catch up with the technological and scientific progress in the various fields;

— Encouraging those industries that rely on local raw materials, whenever this is possible, and linking the priorities of investment with the production objectives on the one hand and with the objectives of reducing the balance of payments on the other;

— Constructing integrated industrial sites in the governorates of the Republic and industrial towns, remote from densely populated areas;

— Developing the government services that are necessary to industries and redrafting the bases of the customs tariff, to the benefit of production requirements and intermediary commodities and not benefitting other commodities that are competitive with national production.

9. The general view of possibilities for an increase in demand for oil in Egypt indicates that the available energy sources will not meet the demand for the various forms of energy. You are aware of what the Third World countries are being subjected to in their efforts to obtain energy and the huge funds their budgets pay out to import their oil needs. This led certain developing countries to stop their development plans because of a lack of funds. In addition, these countries' debts increased considerably as a result of expenditures for energy.

The oil consumption rate in Egypt is increasing 15 percent annually. This means that within 7 years, we will reach a point when we will consume all the oil we produce and there will be no surplus for export. The government, therefore, feels it is duty-bound to warn of the danger of Egypt being turned from an oil-sufficient country, which exports a share of its production, into a country that consumes all the oil it produces and even imports it.

In the field of energy, the government will focus its policy on the following:

a. To stress the need to rationalize energy use and deepen the concept of maintaining it and reducing the rate of consumption for non-productive purposes on the national level. Through well-studied programs and strict commitment to implementing these programs, many countries have succeeded in achieving a visible reduction in the rate of energy consumption. The government realizes the magnitude of the problem and the dangers in leaving it unresolved. The government therefore entrusted the Scientific Research Academy to consult with its best scientists, experts, and executives at production sites in order to prepare programs to be applied immediately for the rationalization of consumption in all sectors.

b. To emphasize the need to strike a balance between the traditional energy sources consumed locally and what can be exported to obtain the maximum possible revenue for contribution to development plan.

c. To ensure the availability of sufficient reserves of energy sources to meet all needs, and to develop natural energy sources by intensifying oil prospecting operations.

d. To achieve optimal exploitation of energy sources and to cope with scientific and technological development in the production and distribution of energy, with the aim of reducing waste.

e. To exploit all possible sources to generate electricity in order to save oil products, to increase exports, and to expand the use of alternative energy sources, such as solar, wind, and nuclear energies.

I do not know if we still have the energy to continue [laughter in the background], not regarding me, but, of course, I mean the (?audience).

10. Promoting Internal Trade Department Efficiency and Providing Supply Commodities: Citizens are entitled to expect to receive national and imported products with ease and to bear a reasonable cost for commodities, transportation, and services from producers to consumers. The quality and cost of services depends on the efforts being made to develop and modernize the public and private internal trade establishments. For this purpose, the government is committed to implementing the following: establishing new distribution centers close to the consumers and modernizing and developing the services in all the public sector's consumer companies. The coming year will witness a clear extension of national commodities distribution centers and an abundance of these commodities. There will be close cooperation with the Chambers of Commerce and unions for dialogue and understanding about the development of the private sector's trade services and the remedy of its problems, and for an agreement on ensuring the social commitment to serving the masses.

The government will pay special attention to ensure bread production according to specifications. Rules have been drawn up for specifications on wheat imports and flour production. A central laboratory has been set up in addition to others to carry out analyses and tests. A national plan will be implemented to provide the governorates with grain silos. The Cairo and Alexandria silos are expected to be in operation around the beginning of 1985, and the Safaja silo in 1986. Transportation capacities will be increased and developed. Scientific methods will be used to minimize grain losses, which average 200,000 tons yearly and cost 40 million pounds.

The government aims to rennovate the present rice-hulling facilities, equipping them with machines for hulling long grain Philippine rice and for complementing and operating the rice boiling unit in 1984-1985.

The government will not implement a program for supporting the feed industry so that in 1984 it will produce three times the quantity produced in 1983. [sentence as heard]

The efficiency of the wholesale trade sector will be raised by expanding the establishment of modern stores and branches, by modernizing storage methods, and by avoiding distribution bottlenecks. Cold stores will be expanded for storage and freezing by using power energy in the best possible way. There will be a fair distribution of consumer goods and consumers will obtain their rational commodities by taking their ration cards to specific distribution centers, according to residential areas and consumer cooperatives, in order to prevent duplication of distribution.

11. Housing: Speaker of the People's Assembly, brothers and sisters, members of the honorable Assembly, the housing problem is one that has both economic and social dimensions and is one of the problems which has not been solved up to now. This problem was the result of many years of an inability to provide an adequate number of housing units. It suffices to say to your honorable Assembly that the housing shortage during the past 20 years, conservatively estimated, amounts to two million housing units. The construction of these units requires at least 20 billion pounds. A huge action and great efforts are needed to draw up a comprehensive housing plan as a part of a national plan in which the role of the state and the private sector will be defined. President Muhammad Husni Mubarak is paying special attention to this problem out of his desire for all citizens to obtain a suitable residence, with an appropriate price, and in a reasonable period of time.

The new government formation has taken into consideration the importance of this problem. Housing has been dissociated from reconstruction and new societies. The Ministry of Housing and Utilities shall be responsible for the planning and implementation of the housing and utilities policy in the existing societies. The ministry shall also focus on low-income housing units.

In confronting the housing problem, the government's plan aims to implement the recommendations put forth by the studies which were conducted by world and local experts. The most important of these studies are: supporting the capability of the construction and building sector through a specific program charted for renovating and modernizing equipment; encouraging the private and joint sectors to establish major contracting companies; giving momentum to building equipment industries, and promoting marketing methods, particularly for cement, bricks made of [word indistinct], reinforced iron, and other building needs.

The upcoming years will witness a clear cut in reliance on imports for most building materials and a clear accomplishment toward attaining self sufficiency; expanding training centers and encouraging citizens, irrespective of their degree of education, to join the workers in the construction field; encouraging land banks and other financial institutions to set up integrated housing units;

encouraging Egyptians working abroad to invest their money in the financing of the housing projects; and benefiting from modern experiments in order to cope with the problem of housing, particularly in some European countries.

Finally, the government realizes the importance of promoting the administration's efficiency in the field of investment in construction work. This sector alone uses about 50 percent of the annual investment. It is therefore necessary that the administration to be efficient enough to rationalize investment expenditures, and consequently to reduce the deficit.

Since 1960, this sector has enjoyed the greatest share of attention in terms of studies. A group of local and international experts has been conducting studies to improve this sector since 1960. The reform plan has become crystal clear. That is why the government has, since its formation, been careful to review such studies and has assigned a number of experts and specialists to draw up a program for immediate implementation in order to back up the capabilities of this sector so that they are compatible with the circumstances of the environment and modernization of companies' and projects' administration.

Through the wise administration of this sector's resources, the government endeavors to increase the sector's capabilities of implementing projects and, consequently, overcoming the problem of delays, reducing the expenses of building as well as the expenses of investment of the economic projects and reducing the expenses of housing units. The government also endeavors to achieve maximum self-sufficency in terms of building materials production, and also in reducing the burden on the balance of payments.

12. New Societies and Land Reclamation: The plan for the new societies needs further concentration in a bid to set up such societies as soon as possible. The government sees that curbing the population explosion and alleviating the burden on towns and other areas can only be done by moving from the narrow valley strip to deserts and coasts, by establishing new construction projects that would become areas for integrated societies, and by establishing various projects in these societies.

There is a point here which might be quite big. At the conclusion of the next 5-year plan, that is after 8 years, Egypt's population will have increased by about 11 million. Can you see an increase of 11 million people in the present area? This is undoubtedly impossible. Therefore, there is a need for challenge. The challenge lies in constructing new societies which must represent the backbone of the policy of reconstruction — no it must represent the backbone of the next 5-year plan, God willing.

The government will continue to implement the program of reconstruction of Sinai to end its isolation and link it with the valley. Moreover, the government will hasten to complete the building of utilities and the basic projects in the new cities, which are necessary for the completion of industrial sites.

The government believes that the land reclamation programs need further support to enable them to expand the framework of land reclamation operations and achieve an immediate increase in the number of reclaimed feddans. In this regard, the government is currently studying the best ways and means possible to encourage the public and joint banking sector as well as the private sector in the land reclamation operation, as I previously mentioned. This can be done through the establishment of joint and private companies that will assist the government in implementing its programs in the field of reclamation and in setting up the necessary rules that will prevent reclaimed land from again being used in speculation and that will make certain of the companies' financial stability, rules which will apply to joint investment in the field of reclamation.

13. Irrigation and Expenditure: Through the wise management of water resources, the government aims to achieve the following:

Reducing surplus Nile water, which is being wasted into the Mediterranean, and rationalizing the use of available irrigation water. To achieve these objectives, the government undertakes to abide by the following policies: Give momentum to the implementation of new irrigation canals; encourage the farmers to use the modern irrigation systems which will ensure reduction in water consumption and completion of projects for the development of water resources that will provide for the needs created by the expansion of the land reclamation operation.

14. Transport and Communication: Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the People's Assembly, the sector of transport and communication is one of the basic pillars on which the national economy depends. The promotion of the efficiency of this sector is one of the components of the successful economic performance in the society. Egypt possesses the greatest net of roads in the Middle East and Africa. Egypt also possesses the greatest potentials for road, river, sea, and air transport. The public and private sectors jointly possess such potentials and work side by side to provide basic services for the Egyptian economy. Recently Egypt witnessed scientific efforts in which international institutions participated to draw up a national transportation plan to define Egypt's need for various means of transportation up to the year 2000, and to draw up programs for the ideal utilization of the available transport potential. Therefore, the government is currently preparing a program to assist those working in the transportation sector to use the type of transportation best suited to the kind of goods to be transported, to encourage the production of means of transport, and rise to the level of services for transportation of passengers and goods, and to rationalize the use of energy in the transport sector, because it is the largest consumer of Egypt's oil production.

The government shall draw up a scientific plan to encourage the use of mass transportation in order to preserve the national resources, rationalize consumption, and assist in solving traffic problems inside the cities.

15. Tourism: The government believes that tourism in Egypt has not yet obtained its real share of international tourism. It is unreasonable that Egypt obtains 1.5 percent of international tourism. It is only 1.5 percent. This is at a time when Egypt has all the components to meet all demands for recreation, for

cultural activities, spending some time at religious sites, and practicing all kinds of sports.

The greatest and biggest archeological treasures are in Egypt. The climate is stable and enjoyable throughout the year. The Egyptian people are hospitable and peaceful and they welcome serving their guest and consider this as their duty. More important than all this is a stable political regime in which everyone feels safe and secure. Egypt has also completed the hotel capacity and developed hotel services. There are now 30,000 hotel rooms in Egypt. This represents a tripling of the hotel capacity since 1974. Egypt has also confortable transport fleets assigned to the tourist service. Some of the world's greatest companies manage hotels and tourist villages in Egypt and hotel expertise is the greatest. The government is eager to exploit all this by lending the tourism sector, increasing the national income, supporting the balance of payments, and by providing the standard that a tourist expects in general cleanliness, discipline, and ethics in dealings as a basic condition for obtaining a greater share of the world demand.

16. Education: Speaker of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the honorable Assembly, perhaps you agree with me that a sound beginning for rebuilding the Egyptian man is by setting up an efficient education system that is capable of deepening the spiritual values, implanting the principles of nationalism and affiliation, and of completing what the home began in this respect. The school represents the first contact point between the individual and the society in its broadest sense. Education is a basic right of the citizen and it is the pillar of the individual by which the individual's personality and dignity is established. Education will help the individual to develop his ideas and creativity. Education will bring about equal opportunities between individuals. Education will bring the society together and class distinction will be reduced. This will reflect upon the whole society in advancement and progress.

We must not forget the close link between democracy and education and its capability of giving significance and purport to democracy. Utmost care is being directed to education because it is an investment which brings returns to various classes of the society and which builds present and future hopes. Education in its various types and branches is the most important sector.

On the basis of this concept of the role of education in building the Egyptian man, the education sector has been divided into two sectors in the new Cabinet formation; namely, education and higher education. The president's directives provide for the need to develop the educational programs in line with the nature of the era and for reviewing the curricula, teacher training, seeking the help of world expertise, and for short- and long-term planning in this field. The directives also provide for drawing up a national program for mother and child care in Egypt. It also provides for expanding the technical education in its true sense so that it will provide a real service to the Egyptian society. An exemplary way must be found for rules of admission to universities. We can seek the expert assistance of states which successfully introduced amendments to rules of admission into universities.

In implementation of these instructions, committees of specialized experts have begun reviewing the studies made on the needs of society and the educational system, prior to preparing their recommendations in the following areas:

The basic skills required of a student in the various stages of education; patterns of conduct to be prepared for at school; the basic ethical shaping of the student at school; the minimal level of resources that must be made available in order for the student to form the basic skills; the possible participation of the sons of the people in supporting the school's potentials, and developing and caring for school premises; the required preparation and training programs for the teachers who will supervise the development; the scientific and applied subjects which will be taught to the student and the best way of presenting them.

As for university education, you agree with me that the universities represent a center of enlightenment in society. Universities contribute to the making of leaders at work sites, and help, through their research, in dealing with problems. The government believes that teachers at Egyptian universities — with their knowledge and expertise and the continuous opportunities available to them to become acquainted with their society's problems and the development in university education systems in other countries — are capable of immediately starting, through the research centers in universities and the specialized committees of teachers and experts, to propose a suitable system of university admissions in order to reduce the tense psychological burden on the secondary school students and their parents.

Using intrinsic resources and the contributions of the faithful sons of the country to modernize the laboratories, scientific equipment, and other basic material resources in order to raise the standard of education; using human resources at universities in the ideal way and immediately starting to increase the number of classes in order to eliminate the congestion in the halls; opening the way for direct, close relationships between teacher and student; encouraging and taking care of students who excel at all scholastic levels and preparing special programs for them in order to form a generation of leaders in all specializations; encouraging paid educational leave for the teaching staff and allocating special rewards for them during their educational leave; expanding the use of scholarships given by friendly countries so that staff members benefit from them in a periodic and regular manner and thus become acquainted with what is new in their specializations; developing higher education curriculae and studying a proposal to set up national colleges for this education, for which a part of the annual scholarship budget and grants from friendly countries will be allocated; and having some members of the teaching staff make themselves completely available to the colleges in return for generous rewards and numerous financial and non-financial incentives.

More effective means will be created to link the production sectors, the services centers, and the scientific research institutions within the universities.

The government, for its part, will draw up lists of problems facing every sector and expectations for good performance and production. The government will refer these to the research centers and the higher studies programs for assistance in finding solutions and for contributing toward creating development programs.

University youths are the pioneers of the present generation and the hope of Egypt in the future. The servies given to students in various colleges, therefore, will be appraised with the aim of improving these servies, increasing their effectiveness, and rationalizing their administration.

The government is also drawin up a program for utilizing the youths' energy during summer vacations in order to give them an opportunity to particiapte in studying the problems of their homeland, to contribute to solving some of them, and to acquire new skills which will help them to earn their living and qualify for a better future.

In regard to Al-Azhar education, Al-Azhar al-Sharif was, still is, and will continue to be a torch of Islamic thought, studies, and research, and a bastion of the Arabic language and art. Al-Azhar has its historical standing and vanguard role in the Islamic world and in the Islamic nation. The government is eager to support all stages of the Al-Azha education and to provide it with all manpower resources and to assist it in being a message for the Islamic sciences in many countries.

17. Fighting Illiteracy: The aspired increase in production is linked with the personal capacity of producers and with the resources available to them. The goal of increasing production therefore, must be linked to developing and improving these capabilities. The way to accomplish this in all countries is by fighting illiteracy. An individual who can read and write can better accept modern production means. Some countries have recently succeeded, through their citizens' personal efforts, in in confronting this problem and in achieving the goal of fighting illiteracy in few years. The government hopes that all efforts will be coordinated in preparing an executive program, which aims to fight illiteracy, to be implemented within a specific time period in all governorates.

18. Supporting Scientific Research: On the basis of the government's policy on searching for existing energies wherever they may be, and for utilizing them, the government is committed to referring the subjects and questions requiring scientific studies and scientists' ideas to the scientific research centers of the Ministry of Scientific Research. The government has actually implemented this policy. It has requested the Scientific Research Academy to study two projects of great importance. These are:
A project for drawing up survey maps for all cities and villages in the republic and a project for rationalizing the use of energy. Monthly requests will be made to various research centers. A periodical follow-up of these projects will affirm that they will be implemented and their results will be applied during the coming few months.

19. Caring for Mosques: Egypt's pure soil is honored by the existence of about 50,000 mosques, built by Egyptian Governments and peoples. A mosque represents a base for spiritual radiance. A mosque can also be a social service center for Muslims. The Ministry of Religious Trusts [awqaf] therefore began a program which aims to:

a. Survey and classify the existing mosques in every governorate to define the available resources and the services needed by the citizens in the area.

b. Selecting the mosques built on areas of land which permit the construction of a health and social services complex attached to the mosque.

The many good people in these areas will be invited to mobilize their efforts in these areas in order to set up a permanent fund, which will cooperate with the Ministry of Religious Trusts in covering the investment and current costs of these services. The mosques imams will be materially and socially supported to enable them to perform their sublime mission.

20. Administration Development: Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the People's Assembly, the promotion of the efficiency of the administration apparatus represents an important factor in bringing about a successful development plan. The president's instructions are aimed at achieving a real administrative development in which all experts and specialists must participate in order to lay down a comprehensive visualization for the sake of improving services being rendered to the citizens and enhance the efficiency of the public sector. From this premise it has become incumbent upon the government to apply the basis of the modern administration to the resources that are available in the society. Therefore, the administration development plan depends on the application of such a basis to the following fields:

a. Using the available resources in the private sector in the form of savings from productive projects and also in the form of savings from Egyptians working abroad who look forward to utilizing these savings in Egypt. The government realizes that scientific administration of these resources dictates the drawing up of well-planned study to entice the sons of Egypt — the owners of these resources — to invest their money and encourage them to contribute toward increasing production. The government will provide the necessary atmosphere of tranquillity, stability, and continuous work to solve their problems and assist them in facing difficulties.

b. Using the resources available to the public sector amounting to thousands of millions and using well over 2 million workers. The public sector can, by sound utilization of public money, rationalization of investments, by elimination of all obstcles facing investment, and by providing stability to public sector employees, contribute toward covering the major part of the deficit in the general budget. Moreover, the public sector can, by promoting national savings in the form of credit installments, and by supplementing the budget resources with income tax revenue, achieve stable prices as an influential force in the markets of commodities.

To achieve this, your esteemed Assembly has passed law No 97 of 1984 which has reorganized the public sector in the form of economic bodies. Therefore, since its formation the government embarked upon preparing the Executive Commission in charge of this law with the collective participation of the heads of all companies and bodies as well as experts in the business sector. The government responded to the desire of the executives in the companies to have maximum flexibility and free administration. The government has, however, undertaken to achieve acceptable revenues for the money invested and a periodic control on the results of work without any procedural control.

The government also undertakes to begin a program for the sake of developing performance in the public sector companies. This program has actually been drawn up and its implementaiton will begin immediately after discussing its components in the field of the administration of companies, under the supervision of specialized ministers and the minister of administrative development.

c. Using human resources in the form of individuals capable of enduring longer working hours and of contributing toward increased production. By using modern management systems, the government looks forward to implementing an integrated program to increase the number of producers in the countryside, towns, and cities and to enable graduates of various educational institutions to build small productive projects.

d. Using resources available at social and charitable societies in ensuring services to the people at token prices. The modern management of good relations among people — which is advocated by religions and reiterated by Islam in words and deeds — can contribute toward alleviating the burdens of needy families and assisting them to increase their income.

e. Using resources available to government organs. The state possesses more than 95 percent of the agricultural land. The government, through its organs, is in control of the majority of services necessary for the economic sector and the people. We must therefore immediately begin, relying on scientific management systems, to have ideal utilization of idle government property, of agricultural land, of productive tools, of devout individuals who can undertake serious work, and of vast areas that can serve as tourist sites.

f. Improving and modernizing the services rendered at government departments. Actually, this demand has become a popular demand. We must immediately change government centers into centers serving the people. These must render services to the people in the way the people expect without sustaining any burden or suffering. The government is preparing an experimental program to develop work centers and regulations, as well as the methods of rendering government services in a specific number of centers. The government will guarantee all factors necessary for this program's success, including financing, equipment, leaders capable of ensuring development, and worker training. The government, through this leading experiment, will affirm that the development and modernization of work is something possible in Egypt as it is possible in many advanced countries, provided resources are available and scientific management systems are used. This program will be implemented immediately after forming working teams of experts who will be assigned to implement and supervise the program at various work centers.

21. Strengthening the Armed Forces' Capabilities: Your Excellency the Speaker of the People's Assembly, members of the dignified People's Assembly, safeguarding the state's national security is the state's primary and most sacred duty. The political, economic, and social edifice of any country needs a force to safeguard it and to provide it with the protection essential for development and progress. From here arises the role of the Armed Forces and the importance of preparedness.

The Egyptian Armed Forces have waged the most honorable battles in defense of their homeland and nation. The Armed Forces did not spare blood or lives in safeguarding the heritage of their homeland and the sanctities of their people and nation. They have always received the people's confidence as a vanguard of the people's sons. On this occasion, I extend a greeting of appreciation and pride to these men for their sacrifices and [applause] persistent work in silence and self-denial. They are symbols of heroism and sacrifice and the shield of security and peace.

The government believes that building the Armed Forces, strengthening their defense capabilities, and modernizing them to cope with international advancement is vital for protecting our strategic interests and safeguarding the Arab nation's national security, deterring aggression, and confronting the plots and schemes aimed against the security of the redeemed homeland.

The government realizes that the Armed Forces' responsibilities in times of peace are no less than those at the time of war. Safeguarding peace requires that these forces remain at the highest level of planning, training, and arming. These forces are the shield and sword of this homeland. The Armed Forces are eager to work within the framework of a comprehensive long-term strategic planning based on scientific foundations. In order to achieve this a 10-year plan has been formulated to ensure the development of the Armed Forces and provide them with their needs. The government will provide the Armed Forces with every possible support to make this plan successful.

Military production is proceeding according to the set plan. You are aware of the importance of this sector for the Armed Forces. The government believes that the development of military industry is a basic task, not only to provide the bulk of the defense needs of local production, but also because of the importance of this industry for the security of Egypt and the security of Arab and other friendly countries, not to mention this industry's technological, scientific, and economic contribution to national defense.

The Armed Forces' efforts are not confined to military areas. They have made positive contributions in the civilian sector. Our Armed Forces have contributed to meeting the shortage in skilled workers through training craftsmen. There is no need to mention the number of people they have trained, but the number practically runs into the thousands. In the area of civilian service, the organs of the National Service Projects, in cooperation with the state's civilian organs, are carrying out many projects in various areas, primarily communication projects, reconstructing railway lines, and easing bottlenecks at Alexandria and Safajah ports. Also, the Armed Forces have participated in highway construction, in alleviating traffic congestion, and in building and equipping scores of bakeries. The Armed Forces' accomplishments have exceeded all expectations both regarding the number of projects they have carried out and the comparative low cost of these projects. In addition, the Armed Forces are striving to achieve self-sufficiency for their personnel and families in the areas of housing and food in order to ease the burden on the government. These accomplishments are characterized by a high standard of performance, timeliness, and a reduction in the cost of the projects.

22. Establishing Internal Security: I believe internal security needs a boost. [laughter] Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the respected Assembly, perhaps you would agree with me that democracy and development cannot thrive unless the state's authority is firmly laid on solid foundations. Every assault on stability is an assault on the people's right to a secure life that enables them to concentrate on their work and to have faith in their future. The government was therefore committed to strengthening internal security by closely following all domestic, Arab, and international developments.

The government has always taken the initiative to abort any conspiracy against law and order. Meanwhile, the security organs have been acting within the legal framework to maintain order for the benefit of the people and country. These organs have been strictly acting within the legal framework and have even resorted to dialogue as a commendable way for dealing with extremism. Dialogue is a superior means of curbing the influence of advocates of terrorism on the youth. It is a fact that all this was achieved without resort to any emergency measures.

The government is doing its best to combat crime. Crime rates have been steadily dropping. The government wants to establish social and economic security in order to safeguard the basic features of our society and its economic resources. This is particularly true in combatting economic crime, the black market, and the scraping of agricultural soil [for use in the brick industry]. This is also true in the government's efforts to enforce discipline and combat narcotics.

The government underlines its commitment to protecting agricultural land. This is a principal component of national wealth, and the government considers it one of its major commitments. The government, through the Ministries of Agriculture, Irrigation, Interior, and Local Government, will enforce the severest existing legal penalties against anyone tampering with agricultural land. The government expects to finish preparing survey maps of every village during the next few months. It will no longer allow building licenses to be issued for locations outside the specified zones. The authorities will enforce the law, eliminate any transgression on agricultural land, and confiscate any property involved in such transgression. This will be going on day and night.

The government underlines that the abovementioned measures are not meant for an isolated or temporary clampdown, but for the proper and precise implementation of existing laws. This is where the role of the police fits in. Policemen are doing their best to protect our security and safety and to lend stability to our national action. We are grateful to them. [applause] This is how the police serves the people — by enforcing the law.

23. Culture: Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the dignified People's Assembly, culture plays a role in shaping the people's conscience and enables them to have a broad view of both their national heritage and mankind's heritage in general. In addition, culture promotes the people's creative faculties and potential, refines their feelings, and deepens their aesthetic sense.

In our modern world, culture is no longer a luxury confined to a certain class. As a matter of fact, cultue is a basic right of every citizen. This necessarily means that the cultural base must be broadened to cover the broad masses of the Egyptian people. The culture we have in mind is a realistic culture that reflects the people's pulse and aspirations — a culture that will help the people assert themselves socially, economically, and politically within a framework of national unity and social peace. In this respect, the government will back culture for the masses and will provide general and educational cultural means to the people at a reasonable and suitable cost. In this respect, the government is already subsidizing books. It will also expand library services and increase the number of public installations. The government encourages the completion and renewal of cultural centers as an immortal heritage of human progress. The government is interested in renovating archeological sites and caring for and safeguarding museums and their exhibits. The government will back the theater.

The government has begun a comprehensive survey of archaeological sites and is establishing a database on these sites. The government is now drawing up a timetable aimed at safeguarding these sites and areas against any form of transgression. These sites are the property of all Egypt's sons and are part of the history of human progress. The government is renewing and maintaining all sites by using funds and grants offered by friendly countries as well as by international organizations interested in safeguarding mankind's heritage. The most important of all is the contribution by the homeland's youths, who participated in the programs for renewing and developing archeological sites.

The government encourages exhibitions abroad — which includes certain exhibits of Egyptian archeological pieces — as a means of stimulating tourism in Egypt and emphasizing Egypt's historical role in the establishment of the first civilization on earth.

The government will expedite the construction and renovation of several museums in order to safeguard Egyptian antiquities. The government will enable students seeking culture and knowledge to see the Egyptian people's accomplishments throughout history.

24. Foreign Policy: Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, members of the respected Assembly, Egypt's strategic position, its pan-Arab commitments, its Arab and African affiliations, and its vanguard role in the nonaligned movement and the ICO makes the movement of Egyptian foreign policy the focus of attention and emphasis at the national and international levels. The president's speech before the session of the People's Assembly and the consultative assembly on 24 June 1984 defined the framework of foreign policy in the coming stage and comprehensively clarified all Egyptian directions in that respect.

The past 3 years have witnessed an increased strengthening of Egypt's role in the international arena and an intensification of its active moves towards all the countries of the world. Egypt has scored a number of diplomatic achievements. It has reactivated its role in the Nonaligned Movement, has become a member of the [UN] Security Council, has resumed its activities in the ICO, in addition to strengthening bilateral relations with all the countries of the world, including many Arab countries.

Egypt's foreign policy is formulated by the national will. This will draws up this policy and directs it towards achieving Egypt's national interest within the framework of a number of principles which this people have accepted and have made the basis for its struggle, a prop for its liberation from all forms of foreign domination, and a starting point for its deliberate move among nations on the basis of the sovereign equality of states, their just right to public prosperity, and to the enjoyment of peace that would embrace all humanity.

These principles as a whole constitute the strategic line for Egypt's foreign policy which is characterized by clarity. This policy is:

a. Egypt's dealings with the Arab nation stem from its pan-Arab commitment towards it and from the inevitable link of its destiny to it. Egypt is part of this nation culturally and spiritually.

b. Egypt's belief in the philosophy of the Nonaligned Movement and its commitment to it is not merely the policy of an ethical principle dictated by conscience. It is a necessity dictated by co-existence within the framework of the international community so that negotiations will replace confrontation and dialogue among nations will be a substitute for the use of force or the threat to use it.

c. Egypt's affiliation to its Islamic world: It is joined [to the Islamic states] by the closest of spiritual ties and cooperation within the framework of their principles, most prominent of which are solidarity regarding justice and social equality among nations.

d. Egypt's affiliation to its African continent, its historic and prominent role in it, its interests that are linked to it, and the influence of African events on Egypt make Egypt's deliberate move among these countries, within this continent and within the OAU, necessary to protect its principles, defend them, and to eliminate the seeds of tension and the causes of conflict among them.

e. Just and comprehensive peace is not one of the available choices. It is the only choice if the world wants to avoid a nuclear catastrophe that will kill everything, destroy civilization and culture, and take humanity to the dark ages.

f. Egypt's affiliation with the Third World countries: Egypt is part of the Third World and suffers from the same problems. Egypt shares the aspirations toward development and prosperity. Egypt is working with all its resources together with the Third World for the sake of a new and more just world economic order.

g. Support for the United Nations, commitment to its charter and international legitimacy, the solving of international conflicts through peaceful means, the maintaining of countries' safety and their territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, respect for the rights of sovereignty and self-determination: Egypt's stand vis-a-vis international issues and problems is taken on the basis of these principles.

In light of the strategic line of the above-mentioned principles of Egyptian foreign policy, the government will do the following during the coming stage:

— Strengthen Egypt's achievements in the foreign sphere, its relations with the Arab world, the African countries, and its active role in the nonaligned movement;

— Continue the peace process in order to reach a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem the essence of which is the Palestinian cause, and achieve an Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon;

— Put an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war;

— Increase the scope of understanding and dealings with the fraternal Arab countries with the aim of uniting the Arab ranks;

— Endeavour to continue bolstering Egypt's international relations with the rest of the world.

25. Integration With Fraternal Sudan: Speaker of the People's Assembly and esteemed brother and sister members of the Assembly, our national security means the security of the Nile Valley, north and south. Our ties with the fraternal Sudanese people are ties of blood and kinship. The signing of the integration charter between the two countries on 12 October 1982 was a momentous event embodying the two peoples' historical and cultural relations. It is a unique model of gradually and scientifically establishing comprehensive unity.

The Supreme Integration Council convened three times under the chairmanship of Presidents Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Ja'far Muhammad Numayri. The last time was in June 1984, when the council adopted several resolutions and recommendations of interest to the peoples of both countries. Integration became a reality pulsing with life. The government will continue its work to promote Egyptian-Sudanese integration and to provide all means necessary for achieving its noble goals.

26. Information Field: The government realizes the importance of the media in immediately communicating events to the people and in providing channels of communication based on the people's confidence in the information relayed to them and on the government's respect for the people's rights to always know the truth. The government respects the people's desire to obtain a resonable amount of knowledge and entertainment, which helps them continue production. The government therefore asserts its determination to take care of the official and private media. It will support the Radio and Television Union with the necessary material and human resources and will back the union's efforts to develop and modernize programs, raise their standards, and diversity them in order to satisfy the expectations of the various groups of the people.

The government intends to also regularly supply the official and private media all information it receives through open channels. It will do so out of its faith in the constructive role that the media can perform in communicating facts and events.

27. The government's policy on taking care of its sons working abroad: The government reaffirms its view that Egypt's sons working abroad are our ambassadors, who confirm abroad the Egyptian people's constructive, humanitarian role in building civilizations in the past, present, and — God willing — future. The government blesses the feelings of affiliation and loyalty that Egyptians abroad manifest in sending their savings home, in taking care of their brothers on scholarships abroad, and in studying ways of dealing with the homeland's problems. The government looks forward to more material and moral contributions in building the homeland. For its part, it will provide all the facilities for the efforts of Egypt's sons working abroad. The following are examples of these facilities:

— The government is currently preparing a study on manpower markets abroad in order to support, through its official organs and labor organizations, the rights of workers in the countries where they work;

— The government is committed to providing all possible facilities to Egypt's sons abroad who wish to contribute to the development plan by beginning investment projects;

— The government is reconsidering the rules regulating worker permits and leaves to give an opportunity to the largest number of them to remain abroad as long as possible, provided this does not have adverse effects on the production and performance of the ministries and establishments to which they belong.

28. Health Care: The Constitution itself ,not to mention social principles, ensures the people the right to medical care. The availability of medical services to the vast majority of the people thus represents a basic goal of government policy in health care. The development plan aims to develop and ensure health care — prevention of disease, treatment, and medicines — as well as to extend health insurance services and to increase interest in public health.

The government believes the people must bear in mind the close link between cleanliness and health care. Cleanliness at the home, streets, offices, factories, and ministries is the most important preventive measure, which, if we apply it, will save us a great deal of the appropriations for treatment and will instead earmark the money for other sectors of health care.

The Health Ministry, in cooperation with the Ministry of Local Administration, local government, governorates, and local councils, is drawing up a national map with specific area divisions. A command will be assigned to each area to mobilize local efforts for the following:

a. To remove dumping areas in neighborhoods and to turn them into parks, parking lots, or youth centers.

b. To fill with earth any ponds and swamps and to destroy sources of harmful insects.

c. To make use of the experience of those developing countries that succeeded in applying simple modern methods for collecting garbage from houses.

d. To mobilize people in every street in order to shoulder the responsibility for the cleanliness and beauty of public areas.

e. To speed up the establishment of garbage bag factories, to organize their distribution to houses, and to brief the people on their use through the media.

Since prevention is better than cure, making available treatment centers that can provide medical services at an acceptable level and at an affordable cost is a basic goal that the government will do its utmost to achieve. The government can affirm that raising the standard of health services does not require further material means. It requires, however, a better method in managing and using the available means.

Experience in Egypt clearly shows that it is possible to establish and operate health service centers that give up nothing to centers available in advanced countries in technical standard and appearance. Experience also shows that the success of these centers was the definite result of cooperation among universities, the Health Ministry, and local and popular organs, as well as of the people's material and moral support.

The government will therefore continue to establish and support these centers and will expand and spread them so that success will be the rule and not the exception.

29. Social Care: In its policy on this issue, the government proceeds from the premise that the family is the cornerstone of society and, consequently, achieving social and family stability and ensuring a suitable environment for caring for children, mothers, the aged, and handicapped is a social commitment by individuals toward those who participated in building society. The government's policy therefore aims to expand the social insurance system, to extend it to a larger number of citizens, and to develop a management system at the centers that will benefit the people.

30. Caring for the Youth and Sports: Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the dignified People's Assembly, the youth constitutes society's tools and resources, working in all fields and specializations. They are the force capable of achieving prosperity and welfare in Egypt. It is the duty of us all to enable the youth to have opportunities for integrated growth and for promoting their mentality, values, education, culture, body, health, and environment, as well as their social being. We can ensure that they maintain their purity by setting good examples for them and by protecting them against deviation. They can thus play their role in serving society and can unleash their creative efforts for the cause of their homeland's issues.

Our democracy provides opportunities for the youth to get experience by participating in political action. This can enable the youth to be fully aware of the problems and dimensions of their society's problems and to participate in solving them. In addition, this democracy permits the youth freedom of expression and participation by allowing them to give their views on building Egypt and on national action. We can thus ensure successive generations of young leaderships polished by political action and enriched by experience.

The 5-year development plan ensures the potential necessary to care for the youths and sports, to kindle the spirit of awareness and national affiliation, and to support youth activities and sports.

Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the dignified People's Assembly, these are the broad lines of the main features of the government's policy in the forthcoming stage. The government wants to emphasize the following points:

First, the government will fully cooperate with the constitutional establishments, foremost of which is your dignified Assembly. The government is fully confident that it will receive all support and encouragement from you through views, initiatives, and legislation, as befits your dignified Assembly.

Second, the NDP government, while implementing these policies, relies on the people's and your support for these policies and for their acceptance, as well as relying on your participation in implementing them. Support, acceptance, and participation are basic conditions for the success of any government. Our duty as a party and government is to broaden the framework of participation to cover every individual capable of working.

Third, dealing with our problems — particularly the economic problem — and solving them calls for a lot of time and effort. Frankly speaking, the government does not have any magic solutions to bring about overnight changes. The only possible way for us, the government and people, is to work hard and exert ourselves. Despite our accomplishments and efforts, we still have a long way to go if we want to achieve development and progress and to raise the standard of living for the broad majority of our people.

Fourth, stable policies are the first step to success. They help us to see the way, they spare us surprises, setbacks, and contradictions, and they underline our respect for each other. They also enable the outside world — both governments and individuals — to absorb our policies in full and to form their own policies on dealing with us. We will soon prepare a written document of these policies so as to make them known and to establish our constant commitment to them.

Fifth, our income depends on how much we work and sweat. The government's resources are confined to the product of our work and effort. The more this product grows, the more income we will have and the better our standard of living will be.

Sixth, the main features of government action during the coming phase will be as follows:

a. Team work and collective responsibility for all decisions will prevail. The government should give a good example for work, conduct, dedication, and self-sacrifice.

b. Scientific methods will be applied to all problems facing us. Problems will be carefully studied and timetables will be set for promptly solving them.

c. Ministerial committees will be confined to the Higher Committee for Economic Policies and Affairs. This will help ministers dedicate more time to their specific duties and field visits. Ministers should follow up projects and become familiar with the people's problems. These ministers will therefore have more power to make decisions promptly.

d. Ministries will coordinate among themselves and exchange information on interdisciplinary areas. They will make sure of the accuracy of the data exchanged.

e. No promises will be made to the public if they cannot be met. Promises will be confined to what can actually be achieved. Achievements, regardless of their magnitude, are better than false promises.

f. The public will be informed of the dimensions of the problems, the ways adopted to solve them, and the time span needed for their solution. Full use of available exprtise will be made.

If we are to succeed, as a government and people, we have to commit ourselves, in words and deeds, to a pattern of values that can light our way and guide our steps. These values include honesty, integrity, concern for public property, exemplary work and conduct, hard work, and abandonment of indifference. I hope everyone understands that negative behavior, even if by individuals, can reflect negatively on society as a whole. The fact is that society is merely a large group of individuals, and its well-being depends on the conduct of these individuals.

Our general conduct must be characterized by discipline and seriousness. We must work longer hours, perfect our performance, respect laws, observe the rights of others, and carry out our commitments and duties before speaking about our rights. This is how our general conduct must be at home, at work, and in the street.

We need sincere soul-searching to reconsider our habits and consumption patterns with an eye to cutting down on what is being lost and wasted. I believe if we take this matter seriously, we will save a lot, which benefits us as individuals and benefits society as a whole. Those who have been entrusted with the masses' interests and with providing the needs of the overwhelming majority of the people must realize that they are in those positions in order to provide facilities and services and not to complicate matters and to rule. They are there to ease suffering and not to increase it. Our guide in this should be the fact that all of us — government, people, constitutional institutions, supporters, and opponents — belong to Egypt first and last. Our common goal is to realize Egypt's dignity and achieve its people's goals of development and prosperity.

Speaker of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the esteemed Assembly, a great task awaits us. The people expect a great accomplishment from us as an expression of loyalty to them and an expression of gratitude for their patience and endurance. This calls for united efforts, strong determination, sincere advice, and a deep sense of responsibility. A great effort awaits us, and we must exert it. It is not an effort to be exerted by one group and not the other. It is not the monopoly of one group and not the other. The popular will enriches and strengthens national action, giving it greater chances of success. We will not be faithful to the trust bestowed on us by the broad masses if we do not unite our efforts to promote national action at the executive level in order to achieve development and prosperity. Let us therefore set forth as one. A joint effort is required through willpower, determination, and deep commitment to the horizons of a bright future that we will realize by work and production and by building on foundations of fraternity, solidarity, and common understanding. May God grant us and all of you success in serving the welfare of this great people [applause] under the wise leadership of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. And say: Work. Soon God will observe your work, as will his apostle and the faithful. [Koranic verse] God's peace and mercy by upon you. [applause]

'Abd al-Majid Delivers Foreign Policy Statement

NC161817 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1745 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Sep (MENA) — Egypt has stressed once again that the Palestinian issue is the essence and core of the Middle East problem and that it is impossible to separate the establishment of peace in the area from a comprehensive and just peaceful settlement of this issue to be reached by the parties.

Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said the starting point for a comprehensive and just peace in the area is solving all aspects of the Palestinian issue with the participation of the PLO in its capacity as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people.

He added that the achievement of this aim requires a coordinated Arab stand that rises to the level of events, is in line with responsibility, is serious, and is far from maneuvering.

In a statement he delievered this evening at the joint session of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee, the Arab Affairs Committee, and the National Security Committee, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said Egypt will immediately undertake a new move which aims to crystallize definite ideas that will be accepted in principle by all parties, and on whose bases they will take part in negotiations which aim to reach a comprehensive and just peace in the region.

In his statement, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid stressed the need for and the importance of Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon in order to begin restoring peace and stability to this fraternal country.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid again recalled that the Egyptian people consider their soil sacred, stressing that any attempt to propound different concepts concerning a single inch of Egyptian soil is rejected by every Egyptian. For every Egyptian, the concept of soil is linked to the concept of honor and dignity and, hence, is not subject to bargaining.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid noted what has been reported about Israel's usurpation of a piece of land in the disputed Tabah area. He again stressed that Egypt has neither allowed Israel to move barbed wire to borders of the disputed area, nor has Egypt ignored such an act by Israel.

Following is the text of Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid's statement:

It pleases me to speak today before you, Honorable Committees, when we all begin a new phase in our national struggle for freedom, construction, and progress supported primarily by a real and firm democracy which creates life, consolidates stability, and achieves for the noble Egyptian people their constant aspirations toward wider horizons, radiant values, bright life, and a distinguished place in the world community.

The Egyptian diplomatic department has maintained excellent relations with your honorable Assembly, characterized by understanding, cooperation, and complete frankness affirming the goal which we are all seeking to achieve in the best possible manner so that the Egyptian diplomatic move will always be a true reflection of the free popular will, to which it is committed.

I am certain that the close relations between the people's representatives and the department undertaking the implementation of Egypt's foreign policy is the best guarantee to achieve the sublime goal of domestic and foreign action, namely the consolidation of the national security in its comprehensive sense and to safeguard our strategic interests under the democracy of construction, accomplishment, trust, and hope for a more prosperous and stable future in the good land of Egypt.

Just as the Egyptian Armed Forces include men protecting Egypt's security on land, sea, and in the air — who are alert to every move along the borders in the north, south, east, and west — the Egyptian Foreign Ministry includes men who are looking after Egypt's interests abroad, are working at every international conference to raise high its voice and its standing among the world's states.

Egypt is proud of its men in its embassies, diplomatic missions, and consulates — diplomats and administrative staff alike. Egypt is proud of Egyptian diplomacy's achievements over the past 60 years, which include the establishment of Egypt's excellent standing and courageous defense of the Egyptian national question at all stages of the national struggle, strongly defending its right, hope, and aspiration for a bright future. Egypt then took the initiative to defend the rights of all free peoples who struggled for freedom, independence, and dignity.

By viewing Egypt's diplomatic achievements and successes achieved by Egyptian foreign policy, this truly reflects Egypt's unique position, its cultural values, and its constantly renewing energies which led Egypt to take up its distinguished position in international events. Needless to praise the constant efforts being made and the work being carried out by various Egyptian institutions to maintain Egypt's position and standing, a quick glance at Egypt's foreign policy accomplishments over the past few months confirms the magnitude of efforts being exerted to promote Egypt's prestige and will in our area and in the whole world.

At the beginning of this year Egypt took up its position both in the UN Security Council to represent the Arab states and among the representatives of the African states and the nonaligned countries. In affirmation of this affiliation the president visited the fraternal African states, Morocco, and then the United States, where he met with the Jordanian ruler and repeated before the whole world his call for settling the Palestine question with the participation of the PLO. Prior to that the president met with Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat in Cairo. The honest manifestation of support at the Islamic States Summit Conference in Fez portrayed the insistence of Egypt's brothers to regain its membership in the organization. Then there was the visit by the deputy prime minister and foreign minister to Iraq to present the Egyptian initiative, which is still the influential factor in the efforts to stop the Iranian-Iraqi war.

Today we begin a new phase, which the president in his speech at the opening session of your distinguished Assembly described as a gigantic beginning of a drastic transformation toward wider vistas under the democracy of construction and achievement, to which we aspire, which makes life and consolidates stability on the good land of Egypt.

On this occasion, we cannot ignore a fact which all previous historic events have proved; namely, that whatever happens in Egypt reverberates in the whole region and, consequently, the consolidation of democracy in Egypt represents the beginning of a new phase for the area and its people, who are aspiring to pursue a civilized course by establishing a dignified political life.

Before I submit to you my concept of how to implement the tasks the president has defined for foreign policy action in the coming period, I wish to assert certain fundamental principles which have become entrenched in the mind of every Egyptian when he deals with foreign policy issues, and which by the same token have become a distinct mark on Egypt's foreign policy as well as in its attitude toward the international parties with which we deal.

One of these principles is the strategy of peace, in which we have made important and effective strides, and our determination to continue the march until we reach the final objective of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East that will ensure the full rights of the Palestinian people and achieve progress, prosperity, and development for the peoples of the area and their coming generations.

Egypt affirms its adherence to all international agreements and treaties to which it has bound itself. It seeks to see international legality prevail. It also seeks to see that principles of international law prevail in relations among states and peoples. In our actions we do not lose sight of what is possible in order to run after the impossible, but we move steadily toward our national objectives which are clear and known to all the parties with which we deal.

Within the framework of these firm principles of Egypt's foreign policy, I believe that the Egyptian foreign policy priorities in the coming period should be governed by the following considerations:

1. Our national security is the security of both the northern and southern parts of the Nile Valley. This is because security is indivisible and the strategic interests are the same, and because our link with the Sudanese people is a fateful link since the dawn of history and is supported by a popular will. Therefore, it is a top priority for Egyptian diplomacy to achieve the objectives of integration between Egypt and Sudan, as specified by the Integration Charter, so as to achieve unhurried and well-studied unity commensurate with the hopes and aspirations of the Nile Valley people. There will be cooperation among all departments and establishments that have been assigned the responsibility for achieving this national objective, which will bring further stability, progress, and prosperity on the banks of our great river, the maker of civilization.

2. Our concept of national security is organically linked to the security of the Arab homeland. Egypt's affiliation to it has been molded by mutual popular feelings. The sincere will of the Arab peoples has defined Egypt's position in this affiliation, which we are keen to stress and deepen at every stage of the national struggle. Our perception of interests and danger, hence, stems from our beliefs and our definition of our role in preserving the Arabs' civilization, heritage, and sanctities. The Arab nation certainly can achieve its pan-Arab aims and protect its vital interests under the canopy of a just and comprehensive peace, which protects all the peoples of the region from the dangers of foreign aggression and intervention, preserves their sovereignty and freedom of will, and allows the mobilization of their resources and capabilities for the purposes of development and progress. Egypt's stand vis-a-vis our Arab issues has always been within the context of this concept.

Allow me to quote from an Egyptian statement made at one of the UN Security Council sessions, in which this stand was expressed. Actually, I was only expressing a reality that is alive in the heart of every Egyptian when I concluded my statement by saying: Egypt has been and always will be an indivisible part of the Arab nation. Our history is one. Our present hopes and sufferings are one. Our common future is always one. No person, government, or state should be under the illusion that Egypt's national interests are different from those of the Arab peoples. They are all identical interests. As it did during the war, Egypt will, in peace, fulfill all its historic responsibilities to protect and support the interests and hopes of the Arab people.

3. I stress again the commitment and determination of Egyptian diplomacy to achieve the desired objective of Egypt's move toward peace — as it was defined comprehensively and in depth by the president in his speech on 24 June 1984 — that the starting point for a comprehensive peace in the coming stage is a move toward solving all aspects of the Palestinian issue with the active participation of the PLO in its capacity as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people. We believe that such a move requires a coordinated Arab stand that rises to the level of events, is in line with historical responsibility, is serious, and is far from maneuvering. We will all be losers if we squander the opportunities available for enabling this struggling people to enjoy their basic rights.

Any historic record cannot deal with the Palestinian people's issue without including Egypt's role, sacrifices, and continuous commitment, which emanates from a firm belief that the Palestinian issue is the essence and core of the Middle East problem and that it is impossible to separate the establishment of peace and the elimination of tension in the region from a comprehensive and just peaceful settlement of this issue to be reached by the parties concerned. A number of formulas were proposed and are still being proposed to achieve this settlement which, according to their sources, differed in preferences of one factor over another. But, all of them have recognized the true essence of the issue and the definition of its parties, and have accepted the fact that negotiations are the civilized way to solve all conflicts. Egypt has not spared a single opportunity to stress the importance of the time factor in achieving this objective.

Allow me once again to recall the contents of my statement before the representatives of the Nonaligned Movement in Kuwait a few days before Egypt regained its dear Sinai territory. I said frankly that Egypt calls on the nonaligned states to consider adopting an initiative based on mutual and simultaneous recognition between the Palestinian people and Israel — namely the mutual recognition of the rights and commitments of each side toward the other, within the framework of full equality in exercising one's rights.

I noted in the statement a comprehensive visualization of the Palestinian rights which we demand Israel to recognize. Within the framework of our basic principles and our national and pan-Arab commitments, we will immediately begin a new move which aims to crystallize definite ideas that will be accepted in principle by the various parties, on whose basis they will participate in negotiations which aim to reach a solution for establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the area.

Although we express satisfaction for some progress in the political and security situation in fraternal Lebanon, Israel's withdrawal from Lebanese territory has become an inevitable necessity in order to begin restoring peace, tranquillity, and stability in the fraternal country and to calm the feelings that the repeated Israeli aggressions against the Lebanese and the Palestinian people have aroused.

4. The Egyptian people's consecration of its national territory cannot be reemphasized, be it toward Israel or toward any other state. Any attempt to raise different concepts regarding a single inch of Egyptian territory is not only rejected by every Egyptian, but causes psychological effects which hinder the promotion of sincere feelings and commitment to peace vis-a-vis the other party and is doomed to failure. The concept of land in the conscience of every Egyptian is organically linked with the concept of honor and dignity, and consequently is not subject to bargaining.

I would like, in this context, to note what was raised regarding Israel's usurpation of a piece of land on the disputed border in Tabah. I reaffirm what I previously said, that Egypt never allowed Israel to move its barbed wire along the disputed area or that Egypt overlooked such action by Israel.

Perhaps we are all confident and certain that every Egyptian is eager to safeguard every inch of his dear territory regardless of the criteria or different political, social, or other positions. Egyptians have a deep sense of attachment to Egypt and are eager to safeguard its glory and dignity. This is a fact and is not subject to discussion and objection. It is the essence of the democratic practices which we are living through and which allow debate and objective differences in viewpoints regarding ways and means of accomplishing the sublime national goals we all hold sacred.

5. Fulfillment of international commitments is a firm and permanent pillar of Egyptian foreign policy action. In the same way, Egypt establishes its relations with other parties in the international community on the basis of the other countries' keenness to fulfill their commitments. It is with this logic in mind that we have announced our demand that Israel respect its commitments to the agreements concluded between the two countries, whether these concern peace with Egypt or the framework for solving the Palestinian problem. We have declared that Israel should not take us for granted in its practices in the occupied territories against the Palestinian people, or in its aggressions against Lebanon.

While hoping that the new Israeli Government will undertake positive steps to bolster the peace process, we are confident that an agreement on a clear and definite strategy for common Arab action is the cornerstone for the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace, and permanent stability in our region.

6. The same importance of priorities in Egypt's foreign policy moves is attached to Egypt's affiliation with Africa and its close connection with African action, whether in the field of Egyptian-African relations or within the framework of the OAU. Egypt is proud of its vanguard role in this organization. Hence, Egypt is keen to preserve the OAU, the solidarity of its countries, and that the OAU should continue its effective and rejuvenating role, which all our African peoples want for the sake of a better future where prosperity will prevail and where there will be freedom and full independence for all the struggling peoples of the continent.

The future of Egyptian-African relations and the role of the Egyptian Fund for Technical Assistance to Africa will always remain an objective and to means by which Egyptian diplomay will give priority in its actions and moves.

The fact is that Egypt's role in Africa is based on firm stands stemming from the support Egypt has given to the struggle of all the African national liberation movements. The July 1952 revolution in Egypt will remain the torch for the start of the independence of our African Continent and the liberation of its people from north to south. Hence, the issues of Namibia's independence and the elimination of the racial discrimination policy in South Africa are main objectives in Egypt's policy on Africa until the peoples of South Africa achieve the aims of their just struggle — the right of fully exercising their national rights and getting rid of the last remnasts of violence and domination still being perpetrated against the peoples of that part of our continent.

In this respect, I must put on record with all appreciation the role of the friendly African countries that have supported Egypt in all political fields and these countries' firm stand of support for the Arab and Palestinian rights.

Perhaps the president's visit to the African states at the beginning of this year; the visits of brotherly African leaders and senior African officials to Egypt; Egypt's constructive participation in all African political, economic, cultural, and religious conferences; and the Egyptian diplomatic missions' efforts in the African states are true evidence of the effectiveness of Egypt's African role, its affiliation, and its determination to defend the continent's vital interests.

7. The Nonaligned Movement has established that it is a safety valve for all types of confrontations and conflicts between the great powers. The movement has become a concept, philosophy, and policy created by the peace-loving nations to protect their national goals of independence and sovereignty and to influence the course of international events.

Since its participation in creating this concept, Egypt has always put its foreign political moves within the framework of its commitment to adhere to the principles and goals of nonalignment. Egypt passes up no opportunity to publicly warn against the dangers of the present polarization of political differences and regional military conflicts, so that these conflicts may not be exploited by the superpowers for their own interests in their calculations of profits and losses.

Recent and past historical events have made us fully aware that whenever the Nonaligned Movement's role in influencing the world's political course weakened, the superpowers had an opportunity to detract from the independnece and sovereignty of the nonaligned states themselves.

The president's participation in the recent nonaligned summit conference held in India and his visit to Yugoslavia last month have strongly revived the role of the Nonaligned Movement's founding members, allowing the nonaligned states to deal with the serious political and economic challenges now facing our world.

The Egyptian policy will continue to support the principles and goals of the Nonaligned Movement. The nonaligned foreign ministers meeting scheduled for the end of this month in New York will be an opportunity to raise specific ideas for dealing with the problems and differences facing the movement and the means for strengthening its role following the consultations held in Yugoslavia and the views exchanged with India and African and Asian nonaligned states during the past few months.

[8.] Egyptian relations with the great powers during the past 30 years witnessed various degrees of rapprochement by virtue of the phases of Egypt's national, economic, and development action. The criterion for this was the extent of support every international side extended for the issue of searching for a just and comprehensive peace and settlement of the Middle East conflict and of contributing to efforts for national economic development.

Undoubtedly Egyptian-U.S. relations now occupy a distinct position in view of the U.S. Administration's efforts in trying to deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict in a more objective way and its realization of the danger inherent in continuing to favor one party over another without regard to justice and international law.

These relations with the United States have developed to include areas of constructive and fruitful cooperation — not only on the governmental level but also on the popular level — as well as the consolidation of commercial, cultural, academic, and scientific ties between the two countries.

Egypt's relations with the United States will continue to develop further and to be consolidated on the basis of mutual respect and common interest in seeing just peace prevail in our area and stability and prosperity achieved for its people.

Concerning Egyptian-Soviet relations, despite the obstacles that have faced these relations, Egypt is eager to maintain good relations with the Soviet Union. The decision to return ambassadors to Cairo and Moscow is the beginning of a new phase in relations between the two countries, the motto of which is mutual respect and common interest. We hope that these relations will strengthen the march of peace in the Middle East.

Needless to say, in Egypt's dealing with the great powers, as well as with other states, it is governed by a sincere desire for cooperation, extending a hand of friendship to all peace-loving peoples and forces, and avoiding any kind of intervention in their internal affairs. Egypt's concern for its sovereignty, independence, and complete freedom of action is the tight framework which governs its relations with any state.

9. Egypt's relations with the European states occupy a special place in Egyptian foreign policy. Political, cultural, and scientific relations link Egypt with the states of the European Community. In addition these states' realization that their security is linked to security in the Middle East, and their active moves to establish just peace in our area, made the consolidation of ties and relations between Egypt and these states a basic necessity at this stage of seeking a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East as well as for opening new prospects for economic and scientific cooperation to help achieve Egypt's ambitious plans for development and progress.

10. Friendly relations with the countries and peoples of Asia and Latin America have been going on for a long time. It is a source of pride that Egyptian diplomacy has become effectein a great majority of countries and is seriously and abidingly working to strengthen its political stand and national economic efforts.

The close ties that link us with the countries and peoples of Asia and Latin America and the record of full and honorable relations between Egypt and the PRC are only examples of Egyptian diplomatic achievements of which we are proud. We hope to strengthen them further still on the basis of the cultural pattern that Egypt has followed since it began its international dealings with an open heart and mind, an extended hand, dignity, a spirit of friendship, and love for all.

While trying so quickly to give a perception of Egypt's foreign policy priorities in the coming stage, I would like to tell the people's representatives about some ideas to which I give priority, particularly in implementing foreign policy. I have in fact asked the Foreign Ministry departments to start implementing them, to prepare the necessary studies in order to crystallize them, and to achieve the highest possible degree of efficiency in implementing them. These ideas include making development one of the major objectives of diplomacy so that the diplomacy of development will become an effective way of achieving Egypt's economic, scientific, and technical development plan. This stems from my belief that diplomatic action during the coming stage must also take into consideration the extent of what it can achieve for development efforts in our country.

While looking for assistance in the development sphere from friendly countries, we must endeavor to acquaint the entire world with and propagate the true dimensions and massiveness of Egypt's cultural, Islamic, and technical assets. This is why I believe it is important to revive the Higher Committee for International Cultural Relations and Technical Cooperation as an organ of coordination and planning at the government level. It will be entrusted with the task of coordinating the efforts of the noble Al-Azhar, intellectuals and religious men, university teachers, and cultural and student exchange programs, all of which represent a basic pillar in Egypt's diplomatic moves and the formulation of its relations with all countries and peoples.

This is linked to the importance of having close coordination between the Foreign Ministry organs and the Ministries of Information, Tourism, Economy, Industry, Agriculture, Irrigation, and Planning. This coordination does in fact exist and we are endeavoring to strengthen and bolster it.

Concerning the importance of linking Egypt with its sons abroad, I beg your pardon that I relate a vivid experiment which I had when the glorious October 1973 war broke out. Donations of money and medicine poured into the Egyptian mission in New York. Calls for blood donations were made in the Islamic Cultural Center and the Coptic Churches. They were all automatic moves by Egyptians — Muslims and Copts — who live in the United States but who feel Cairo's pulse and interact with their dear country with all the love, loyalty, and desire for sacrifice. Undoubtedly, the same thing happened in all parts of the world.

While the Ministry for Emigration Affairs is playing a vital and important role in this sphere, I believe that Egyptian diplomacy should make a big effort in supporting the Ministry for Emigration Affairs and in achieving the desired aim of linking the Egyptians abroad with their country and their participation in its efforts in various fields. Because of this, I attended the conference of Egyptian expatriates and opened a free, frank, and lengthy dialogue with them.

On the other hand, I have followed up the performance of the departments that deal with the public, certifying documents for example. I asked the relevant departments in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry to provide all facilities to the citizens. I personally followed up measures for opening a new certification office in Alexandria, where there are many foreign consulates, which will provide assistance to the public visiting the ministry's certification department.

Allow me to conclude my statement to the distinguished committees by affirming my faith in the participation of popular diplomacy and its effective role in accomplishing the tasks of Egyptian foreign policy. Needless to say, the effective participation and outstanding efficiency of the People's Assembly members in various parliamentary conferences and gatherings are a main and vital support for the Egyptian diplomacy's achievements.

I am certain that this will be enhanced and become more effective in the coming phase and under the real democracy in which we live. The beginning of this fruitful cooperation by participation of the People's Assembly members in the Egyptian delegation to the coming session of the UN General Assembly represents in fact new and bright vistas for a capable and efficient diplomatic action that always puts Egypt above every consideration and that considers its interest and its people's security and stability as its prime objective. May God's peace and mercy be with you.

After Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid concluded his speech, the meeting continued in closed session that lasted more than 2 hours. A lengthy dialogue took place about various issues and the foreign minister answered members' queries on the various issues mentioned in the foreign policy statement.

Reportage on Attempt to Hijack Airliner

Minister on Hijacking Attempt

JN160625 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0555 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA) — Iraqi security men have foiled an attempt by three Iranians to hijack an Iraqi airliner. The three Iranians were killed during the attempt.

In a statement to INA today, 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Rahim, minister of transport and communications, said that the attempt to hijack the airliner, a Boeing 737, took place last night while it was on a flight from Larnaca to Baghdad.

The Iraqi minister explained that the three Iranians who were carrying false passports tried to carry out the hijacking while the airliner was over Syrian territory.

The Iraqi minister added that the alertness of the security men in the airliner and their quick action in killing the three hijackers had foiled the hijacking of the airliner.

The Iraqi minister described this attempt as a frustrated attempt through which the Iranian regime had sought to mitigate the impact caused by the hijacking of three Iranian military and civilian planes and their seeking refuge in Iraq. The Iraqi minister said that the Boeing 737 airliner which belongs to Iraqi Airways returned to Baghdad Airport last night with all its passengers safe and sound.

The security men on the airliner said that the hijacking operation was foiled 1 minute after it began. They said that one of the hijackers, carrying a paper-wrapped bottle, opened the door to the cockpit and shouted that the airliner had been hijacked. This happened 1 hour after takeoff from Larnaca Airport. They added that one of them opened fire on the hijacker, killing him instantly, and that the others attacked the other hijackers who were standing at the rear and in the middle of the airliner.

The captain of the airliner explained that the hijacking operation began when one of the hijackers told a hostess that he was ill, and when she brought him a drink, he pushed her and rushed toward the cockpit. The captain added that not one of the 110 passengers of different nationalities on board was hurt.

Security Men Honored

JN161122 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1055 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has awarded medals of valor to three Iraqi security men who foiled an attempt to hijack an Iraqi airliner. President Saddam Husayn also promoted one of the security men to a higher grade, granted the second two additional years of service, and the third one additional year of service.

A responsible Iraqi source today said that the awards granted by President Saddam Husayn are in appreciation of the courage shown by the three security men and their quick action in foiling the hijack attempt.

Iranian Passengers, Crew Depart 15 Sep

JN151141 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The passengers of the hijacked Iranian Boeing 727 that landed in one of the Iraqi airports last Sunday left Baghdad at dawn today. The two hijackers, Police Lieutenant (Tawtan) and his colleague (Parvish), the wife and two children of the latter, and one of the passengers who expressed a desire to stay in Iraq remained behind. The Iranian passengers left on an MEA plane that displayed the symbol of the International Red Cross. The plane came to Baghdad specially for this purpose.

Mr Franklin (Kilinan), head of the 11-man Red Cross team, expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Iraqi Government for the facilities it afforded the team and its great care for the passengers and crew of the hijacked Iranian plane.

The competent Iraqi authorities had arranged a program for the Iranian passengers to visit the holy places in Karbala', Al-Najaf, and Al-Kazimiyah, as well as several tourist and commercial areas in Baghdad. They were also acquainted with the landmarks of progress and development in the country.

Foreign Ministry Statement

JN151552 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Sep 84

["Text" of statement issued by Foreign Ministry official spokesman on 15 September]

[Text] The passengers and crew of the hijacked Iranian airliner left Baghdad for Tehran at dawn today, Saturday, 15 September. An MEA plane transported them and the International Red Cross team in Baghdad supervised this operation after the Iraqi Government had offered all necessary facilities for the team to carry out its work in the best way and to meet with the airliner's passengers and crew in order to make sure about their wishes. One of the passengers expressed his desire to stay in Iraq as a political refugee.

Iraq accorded the Iranian plane passengers and crew a warm reception, treated them in a distinguished, humanitarian manner, and provided them with all means of comfort throughout their stay in Iraq. It thus proceeded from the principles of its leading party — the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party — and from the principles of international humanitarian law in which it believes and respects.

[Dated] Baghdad, 15 September 1984

Lloyd's Cited on FRG Ship Sunk by Missile

JN141045 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] London, 14 Sep (INA) The Lloyd's list said today that an FRG ship chartered by Iran sank near the Nowruz oil fields northeast of Khark Island yesterday after it was hit by an Iraqi missile.

In an article today, the paper added that 4 of the ship's 11-member crew were rescued and that rescue teams are still searching for the others.

Yesterday Iraq announced that Iraqi naval units attacked a medium-sized maritime target while it was leaving the Iranian Nowruz oil fields, hitting it accurately and effectively, and that fire was seen rising from the ship.

Three Britons Among Dead

LD141654 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1614 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Three young British divers were among six people killed during an Iraqi air attack off Iran's Khark Island, the Foreign Office confirmed today. They were on board the German-owned supply vessel *Seetrans 21*, which was destroyed in the raid. The dead Britons were named tonight as David Boyd, Russel Fitzgerald and Gerald Rowntree, all in their twenties, and employees of Wharton Williams Taylor of Aberdeen.

Two other Britons, named as Mike Watson and Peter Danesi, were plucked from the blazing vessel by Iranian helicopters.

One was slightly injured, but both are now safe at the Iranian oil terminal at Khark. The Britons were working on an oil contract with the Iranian National Oil Corporation.

Two West Germans and a Filipino were also killed in Wednesday's attack.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communiques

No 1,588 of 14 Sep

JN141638 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Communique No 1,588 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 September 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the sword of right and justice, the soldiers of the victory commander, Staff Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, continue to intensify their strikes at the forces of the defeated Khomeyniite clique in their protection of the pure Iraqi soil from the filth of the enemies and their greed.

The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units engaged with various weapons an enemy group which tried to approach its position in the central operational sector [as heard; Baghdad INA in Arabic at 1558 GMT on 14 September, in its version of this communique, refers to the "northern operation sector"], killing 15, wounding several others, and forcing the remainder to flee from the fire of our heroic fights. In another area in the same sector, more Iranian soldiers fleeing the regime of charlatancy and jugglery in Iran sought refuge with our units. They were removed to the rear lines.

2. Our brave artillery men directed heavy and effective salvos at enemy positions and equipment in front of one of our forward units in the east Basra operational sector, inflicting heavy losses in personnel and equipment and destroying one antitank gun and two observation posts.

3. One of our forward units opened fire with artillery and other weapons on enemy positions and personnel concentrations in front of its positions in the Maysan operational sector, inflicting heavy losses in personnel and equipment and destroyign three infantry positions and an arms depot.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 September 1984

No 1,589 of 15 Sep

JN151621 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Communique No 1,589 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 September 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The sons of our great people and heroic Armed Forces are continuing their splendid confrontation of the Iranian aggressors. The results of their successful activities for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. A valiant ground force from one of our brave forward units attacked an enemy observation post opposite our positions in the Maysan sector this morning and managed to destroy the observation post, killing five enemy troops and capturing three others. Those captured were evacuated to the rear. Elsewhere in the same sector, one enemy vehicle was set on fire and destroyed.

2. Our forward units fired on several enemy positions, troop concentrations, and weapons emplacements in the operational area east of Basra, killing two, wounding others, destroying one personnel position, and starting several fires in enemy infantry positions and weapons emplacements.

Our units also destroyed an enemy excavator and obstructed enemy work and engineering efforts.

3. One of our forward units pounded an enemy vehicle loaded with personnel in the central sector of the operational theater and managed to destroy it and kill all its occupants.

Elsewhere in the same sector, one personnel shelter, one hardware stockpile, and one infantry position were destroyed. Those in the infantry position were either killed or wounded.

4. One of our units dealt concentrated artillery blows to several enemy positions opposite our positions in the northern sector of the operational theater, scoring effective and significant hits.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 September 1984

No 1,590 of 16 Sep

JN161620 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Communique No 1,590 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 September 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces have continued their activities on the warfront against the forces of the ignorant Iranian enemy.

The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Using artillery and other weapons, our forward units pounded enemy positions, troop concentrations, and fortifications east of Basra, inflicting casualties and material losses. One enemy vehicle was destroyed and columns of smoke were seen rising from enemy positions.

2. A number of our daring helicopters today carried out bold, effective combat missions against enemy positions in the southern sector, inflicting losses in men and equipment. Our forces destroyed 10 infantry positions. All our helicopters and pilots returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

3. One of our forward units engaged enemy positions and vehicles in the central sector, destroying one infantry position. One enemy vehicle was also destroyed and those manning it were killed.

4. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 September 1984

Japanese Proposal on Arms Deliveries Rejected

NC161825 Paris AFP in English 1813 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Manama, Sept 16 (AFP) — Iraq today strongly rejected a Japanese proposal to introduce a resolution at the United Nations General Assembly calling for an end to all arms deliveries to both Iraq and Iran, sources in Baghdad said today.

The sources, interviewed by telephone from Bahrain, said the plan "put Iran and Iraq on an equal footing and did not take into consideration the constant efforts of Iraq to end the war."

The sources also noted that Iraq buys its weapons through contracts on the open market while Iran buys them on the black market and that Baghdad would thus be more affected than Iran by a blanket arms embargo.

Iraqi officials communicated their rejection of the project to a Japanese special envoy, Yishio Hatano, who heads the Middle East Department at Japan's Foreign Ministry.

Mr Hatano conferred Thursday night with the deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Iraq, Tariq Aziz, and said Friday he would fly back to Tokyo today without going to Tehran.

Reportage on Visit by Bangladesh President

Arrives in Baghdad

JN151525 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Baghad, 15 Sep (INA) — Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad arrived in Baghdad late this afternoon on an official viist to Iraq that will last several days. President Ershad was accorded an official reception led by President Saddam Husayn.

Also receiving him were 'Izzat Ibrahim, the RCC vice chairman; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC memebr and first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, the vice president; the chief of the presidential office; the ministers; and the Bangladesh Embassy staff in Baghdad.

Talks With Saddam Husayn

JN161311 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA) — President Saddam Husayn and Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad held a session of talks before noon today.

The two presidents discussed bilateral relations and ways of promoting them, the situation in the region, and the Iraq-Iran war developments.

During the talks, President Saddam Husayn reaffirmed Iraq's sincere desire to reach a just and honorable solution to the Iraq-Iran war on the basis of international law principles.

Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad expressed his country's desire to end the war and praised Iraq's stand calling for peace.

The two presidents reiterated their two countries support for the PLO and its struggle for the sake of the Palestinian people's rights and stressed the importance of Islamic solidarity and their support for the ICO.

The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Ahmad Husayn, head of the president's office; Dr Sadiq Hamid 'Allush, minister of health and head of the honor escort; the president's secretary; and other Iraqi officials.

On the Bangladesh side, the talks were attended by Professor Mohammad Yusuf Ali, relief and rehabilitation minister; A.R. Yusuf, special assistant to the president and in charge of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism; Zakir Khan Chowdhurt, adviser to the president; and other Bangladesh officials.

Presidents Saddam Husayn and Ershad held a closed meeting this morning. During the meetings, the discussion dealt with bilateral relations and ways of promoting them. The two sides also exchanged viewpoints on the most important events in the region and the developments in the Palestinian cause and the Iraq-Iran war.

Feted by Iraqi President

JN162030 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] President Saddam Husayn held a banquet this evening in honor of visiting Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and his delegation. The banquet was attended by [words indistinct] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, the vice president; a number of RCC members; the ministers; and senior civilian and military officials.

UAE Petroleum Minister, Delegation Arrive

JN141617 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Sep (INA) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, arrived here this evening heading a delegation on a 2-day visit to Iraq. In a statementto INA, Dr al-'Utaybah said that his visit falls within the framework of a mission with which he is charged by the OPEC ministerial committee to explain OPEC's viewpoint on the situation in the oil market. He said he hopes that OPEC would receive support and aid to overcome its ordeal resulting from pressures placed on it by big consumer countries and international oil companies connected with them.

Dr al-'Utaybah asserted his confidence that Iraq, which is a founder state, will exert all efforts to support OPEC and to stand beside its members to safeguard stability in the international oil market, the price structure, and the daily production of the OPEC members.

The delegation accompanying Dr al-'Utaybah consists of Ash-Shaybah al-Hamili, under secretary of the UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Ministry, and Ahmad Mirza, assistant secretary at the ministry.

Minister, Delegation Depart

JN150837 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0758 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Sep (INA) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, and the accompanying delegation left Baghdad this morning following a brief visit to Iraq.

During this visit, Dr al-'Utaybah held talks with Iraqi officials in the context of the mission entrusted to him by the OPEC ministerial council which is to explain the organization's viewpoint on the current conditions experienced by the oil market and to obtain assistance and support for the organization so it can withstand the pressure that is being brought upon it by the major consumer states and certain world petroleum companies.

President Saddam Husayn had met with Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah this morning and discussed with him OPEC's policy, especially with regard to the world oil market.

The meeting was attended by Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi and the secretary of the president.

Dr al-'Utaybah expressed his great satisfaction with the results of the visit and of his meeting with President Saddam Husayn.

Dr al-'Utaybah told INA that the president had assured him of Iraq's support for OPEC in all its moves to achieve stability in the world oil market.

AFP: King Husayn Schedules Visit to USSR

NC150942 Paris AFP in English 0924 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Amman, Sept 14 (AFP) — King Husayn will pay an official visit to the Soviet Union next month, probably to buy Soviet weaponry, well-informed sources said here today. The sources said that previous trips had confirmed the availability of Soviet arms, and that it was therefore likely that King Husayn would make an order while in Moscow. The king last paid an official visit to Moscow in May 1981, though he was there in 1982 as a member of an official Arab delegation.

Husayn To Address Second Parliament Session 1 Oct

JN171016 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 17 Sep 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Amman, *AL-RA'Y* — His Majesty King Husayn will open Parliament's second ordinary session on 1 October with a comprehensive pan-Arab speech, in which he will deal with the Jordanian stand toward the various Arab and international issues, the efforts being exerted to establish peace in the region, and the scope of Jordanian policy in the forthcoming stage in light of the current changes in the region.

Sulayman 'Arar Says No Accord With PLO Reached

JN150835 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Sep 84 p 1

[By a *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Sulayman 'Arar said Friday that Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have not yet reached a specific political framework for joint Middle East moves, saying that the difficulties facing the PLO at the present have contributed to this. The Jordan-PLO talks have nevertheless been useful, he said.

The deputy premier said there is no problem between Jordan and the PLO over financial assistance rendered to Palestinians in the occupied territories. "The assistance programme is not completed yet as some Arab countries have not met their obligations according to resolutions of the Baghdad Arab summit in 1978," he said.

In an interview with AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, Mr 'Arar also said that the extremist Abu Nidal group was responsible for terrorist attacks in Jordan, disclosing that those who planted the bombs in cars outside the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel last March, immediately prior to the visit of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, have been apprehended. The deputy premier did not, however, specify the names or the number of the culprits.

In the interview, Mr 'Arar ruled out lifting restrictions imposed on Jordanians travelling to Syria and restoring diplomatic relations with Libya that were severed in February, 1984 following a mob attack against Jordan's embassy in Tripoli. "Libya has gone overboard (in its behaviour with Jordan). We have also accepted Libya's disrespect for its financial obligations towards us as specified by the Rabat and Baghdad Arab summits. But we cannot tolerate the burning of our embassy in Tripoli," Mr 'Arar, co-chairman of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee to support the steadfastness of the people in the Israeli-occupied territories, said.

On the arrest of some officers and clerks in the Anti-Narcotics department in Jordan, the deputy prime minister said: "We have been informed of misconduct at the Department. Investigations (into the matter) are continuing and those who are found guilty will be punished, regardless of the consequences."

Mr 'Arar also denied there is an illegal trade in arms between Jordan and Saudi Arabia, adding: "The government of Mr Ahmad 'Ubaydat, like (former Prime Minister) Mudar Badran's government, will lead a concerted campaign against corruption in the country. We are determined to uproot the dirty hands in our society."

Editorial Denounces Plan To Base Pershings in Israel

JN150928 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Sep 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Nuclear Weapons and the Adventurist Mentality"]

[Text] The reports on the Israeli pledge to deploy Pershing II nuclear missiles on the coast of occupied Palestine within the strategic cooperation plan with the United States constitute a new and very dangerous threat to which the entire region will be exposed. This is because the entry of nuclear factor becomes a new element to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Israel, which is overflowing with tools of death and destruction produced by the U.S. military arsenal, is preparing to receive U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles and to become a nuclear base of aggression against the Arab and Islamic people. This is because the only enemy of Israel in the world are the Arab and Islamic people who are weak due to their differences and fragmentation.

We are not surprised at the Israeli preparation to become an aggressive nuclear base nor at Israel's trend toward extremism and toward entrenching the policy of force stemming from a racist, arrogant Zionist ideology. What we must question is the irresponsible U.S. trend pushing the Middle East toward threats using nuclear weapons without taking into consideration the consequences of all this on international peace and security and the tension which will prevail in areas outside our unstable region.

The questions we should ask are: Is the United States not satisfied with the sophisticated conventional weapons, the technology and intelligence support, and the financial and economic aid with which it supplies Israel? Does it have to move to nuclear weapons which will involve the Middle East in more fierce and complicated disputes?

It is not unlikely that the U.S. nuclear missiles will be deployed in occupied Palestine with feeble excuses rejected by everyone, such as the so-called Soviet danger to the people in the region. We call on all the people who are the target of these weapons — the Arab and Islamic people — not to be deceived by such excuses, to exert their efforts to make the U.S.-Israeli adventurist mentality become reasonable, and to try with all means to establish a military balance which will take into consideration all dangers caused by Israel possessing nuclear weapons.

Peres Government, Call for Peace Mocked

Al-Masri Sees No Improvement

JN151902 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Interview with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri by Jordan Television correspondent Habis Musallam in Amman on 15 September — recorded]

[Text] [Habis Musallam] Your Excellency, how does the new Israeli Government differ from the previous one?

[Tahir al-Masri] Since the Israeli legislative elections were announced, we have been expecting the policies of the two major political parties to be identical. This similarity is shown not only toward the Jersualem question and the Palestinian people's rights, but also toward withdrawal from and sovereignty over the occupied Arab territories, a peaceful solution, and Lebanon. Our expectations were realized when we heard the names of the new Israeli Government members. A government comprising this large number of hawks and which gives a portfolio to a general like Sharon can only urge Shim'on Peres' friends in Western countries to reconsider their attitude toward the credibility and political party of this man.

We believe that the primary — and perhaps the only — task of this government during this phase is economic in nature. However, Prime Minister Peres noted upon forming his government that it will not reach any agreement. The leaders of this government will soon rush to Washington to ask for more economic aid in order to rescue the Israeli economy, which has great problems.

We in Jordan would like to announce once again that one of Jordan's foreign policy pillars is that a peaceful solution must be achieved through total withdrawal in return for full and comprehensive peace, based on implementing the principles and clauses of UN Resolution 242.

[Musallam] Thank you, Your Excellency.

Peace Invitation Assailed

JN151659 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1610 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In his address to the Knesset on Thursday, the new Israeli prime minister invited Jordan to negotiate on achieving real peace. He said that when this peace is established the Jordan River will irrigate the fields on both sides without futile disputes and differences.

Shim'on Peres' peace invitiation, in Israeli fashion, is not the first of its kind. The Labor Alignment made similar proposals during past years, but Israel failed to present a real and reasonable formula to establish peace in the region.

When the Israeli prime minister speaks about the kind of peace in which the Jordan River will irrigate fields on both sides, he actually means that the Jordan River will be the border between Jordan and Israel. This kind of peace as announced by the prime minister of the Israeli national unity government will not attract anyone in the region, particularly since it totally ignores the Palestine question — land and people. What kind of peace does Peres mean as long as it ignores the Palestinians' rights to their occupied homeland and skips over Palestine's people and land in order to sign a bilateral deal that would provide legitimacy, disregarding the real cause of the Middle East crisis?

Peres' idea concerning peaceful negotiations cannot serve the peace process so long as those who have legal rights to the cause have been kept away from the negotiation process and peace in the region.

We are confident that Israel's continuing disregard of the main causes of the Palestine question and the Middle East problem cannot lead to peace in the region. While making proposals, Israel's logic is that of imposing the conditions of submission on the Arabs and, consequently, imposing the policy of aggression and expansion on the Arab world.

Israel, which has foiled all initiatives on real peace in the Middle East, cannot issue a real invitation for peace so long as it adheres to the policy of expansionism, aggression, and colonialism in the the region. It is certainly the last party that thinks of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

U.S. Welcome of Call Scored

JN160930 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 16 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Repetitive Tune and the Naive Echo," *AL-DUSTUR* says: In light of Jordan's firm stand on establishing a just, permanent peace based on UN resolutions that stipulate Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and call for recognizing the legitimate Palestinian rights, Shim'on Peres' call to Jordan for negotiations is merely an old record and a repetitive tune whose malicious objectives no longer fool anyone.

Undoubtedly, those far and near will have immediately realized the malicious objectives behind Peres' misleading call, which coincided with the establishment of two new settlements in the occupied West Bank, as a practical, significant indication of the expansionist, colonialist course the new Peres-Shamir government will adopt.

AL-DUSTUR adds: However, what is astonishing is the U.S. officials' reception and welcome of such an open and misleading invitation as an expression of Israel's good intention and goodwill toward its Arab neighbors who, according to this distorted U.S. logic, must begin negotiating with such an Israeli Government whose policy statement completely disavows every usurped Arab right.

AL-DUSTUR continues: When U.S. Vice President George Bush addresses a congregation of Jewish voters with such naive understanding of the significance of Peres' call, and the same time affirms commitment to President Reagan's famous initiative, which calls in at least one of its clauses for halting the Jewish settlement program, he resembles someone who has lost his common sense and has ensnared himself in the two-faced policy that has recently characterized the U.S. stands. Otherwise, how can the U.S. vice president ask the Arabs and the world to believe the open call which Peres made while he was surrounding himself with Sharon, Shamir, and others, and at the same time affirm commitment to Reagan's initiative, which was thwarted by U.S. hesitation and killed in its infancy by the absolute Israeli rejection of all its declared clauses?

AL-DUSTUR concludes: If the U.S. officials in the midst of the presidential election battles find justification for flattering Israel and for reiterating the repetitive Zionist tune, then we realize the principle on which Peres bases his call for the deceptive peace. We also realize the depth of the flattery and bootlicking the characterize such a biased U.S. stand. We affirm that such malicious calls will not fool us and that they will make the Arabs more determined to achieve their legitimate rights and adhere to their just causes. Rights will not be lost as long as there are people who claim them.

French Defense Minister Arrives in Amman

JN151840 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpt] French Defense Minister Charles Hernu and the military delegation accompanying him arrived in Amman this afternoon on a visit that will last several days. They will visit a number of military and historical sites in Jordan.

Confers With 'Ubaydat

JN161227 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat received at his office today French Defense Minister Charles Hernu, who is currently visiting Jordan. The meeting was attended by Major General Hilmi al-Lawzi, assistant cheif of staff for operations and training, and the French ambassador in Amman.

France Said Ready To Meet Arms Requirements

JN170832 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Sep 84 pp 1,3

[By Salameh B. Ne'matt, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — French Defence Minister Charles Hernu announced Sunday that France has decided to provide Jordan with its needs of arms in line with the French Government's political will to help the Kingdom preserve its independence and security.

Mr. Hernu said a Jordanian-French committee has been formed to study the priorities of Jordan's need for arms and to see France's capabilities of satisfying all the Kingdom's military requirements. "We are not sure if we are able to provide all the needs, but we will do our best," the French defence minister said.

Speaking to reporters after meetings with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General al-Sharif Zayd Ibn Shakir, Mr Hernu said France "has the alternative" to the U.S. Stinger missiles and that "it is impossible that France would not respond to Jordan's needs."

Mr Hernu, who arrived in Amman Saturday for a three-day official visit to Jordan, said the Kingdom seeks to diversify sources to obtain weapons for its defence needs and to preserve its sovereignty and independence. He told reporters that the issue of financing Jordan's arms purchase was a "French-French problem and not a French- Jordanian problem." He said that upon returning to Paris, he will meet with the French finance minister and discuss ways to financing Jordan's arm purchases. "We have a determined political will and commitment to provide Jordan with arms as a friendly country whose stability is essential to the stability of the whole area," Mr Hernu said. But he did not confirm or deny a report that there is an agreement to provide Jordan with additional French-manufactured Mirage jet fighters. France has already supplied Jordan with 34 Mirage jet fighters and a number of Alouette helicopters.

Mr Hernu said France always had military cooperation with Jordan which will continue "because France does not fail its friends especially in an hour of need."

Mr Hernu, who is the first French minister to visit Jordan after a visit by French President Francois Mitterrand last July, said his visit came as a continuation of regular French contacts with the Kingdom "because France aims at maintaining a balance in the region." He said "the threat of any conflict in the region bypasses the borders of the countries involved which is why France, as a nuclear power and the third military power in the world, is determined to achieve an equilibrium."

The French minister stressed that France has no enemies in the region, "but only friendly countries towards whom we are dedicated." France has always "honoured its commitments and maintained its credibility," Mr Hernu said. He revealed that France has signed a contract to provide Kuwait with French Mirage jet fighters and that the contract was signed last year. Mr Hernu said he will meet the Kuwaiti Army chief of staff in Paris next week and will receive a message from the Kuwaiti defence minister on the issue. Mr Hernu said France has a consistent policy in regards arms provisions. He said his country does not provide weapons to countries which practice racism or oppression on its people. He confirmed that France does not supply arms to Israel.

Earlier Sunday, Mr Hernu, who is heading a high-level military delegation, visited a Jordanian Air Force base where he saw air exercises by Mirage jet fighters piloted by Jordanian pilots who he described as "competent and professional." The French defence minister is scheduled to meet with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the Regent, Monday before ending his three-day visit.

Prince Hasan Said To Visit Cairo in October

JN141029 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 14 Sep 84 p 1

[Exclusive dispatch]

[Text] Cairo — The Cairo newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* has said that His Highness Crown Prince Hasan the Regent will chair a seminar on Jordanian-Egyptian scientific integration, scheduled for the second half of next month. The paper added that his highness the crown prince will visit Cairo for this purpose at the head of a Jordanian delegation composed of 10 senior scholars and officials.

Dr Yusuf Wali, Egyptian minister of state for agriculture and food security, will attend the 2-day seminar, which is being organized by the Egyptian Agriculture Ministry at the international Egyptian center for agriculture.

The conferees will discuss scientific cooperation projects between the two countries, the exchange of information and expertise in the field of land, water, and space, the reactivation of trade, and the exchange of industial products and expertise in the fields of aerial photography and cartography.

AL-JUMHURIYAH said that several Egyptian institutions will take part in the seminar. These are the Ministries of Petroleum, Mineral Resources, and Planning as well as the Scientific Research Academy, the Desert Institute, the Sinai Construction Department, and the Suez Canal University. Egyptian space scholar Dr Faruq al-Baz will also participate in the seminar.

Syrian Military Delegation Meets With Al-Jumayyil

NC141448 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The Syrian military delegation comprising Major General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff; Major General Sa'id Bayraqdar, commander of the Syrian Forces in northern Lebanon and the Al-Biqa'; and Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of the Syrian intelligence service in the Syrian Forces operating in Lebanon, left Bikfayya after visiting President Amin al-Jumayyil and holding extensive talks with Army Commander General Michel 'Awn and senior command officers. The talks aimed to put the final touches on practical moves to implement the mountain security plan. They also aimed to clear the way for deploying Lebanese Army units and disengaging the forces on both sides of the contact lines at the agreed upon positions, and for reopening all international highways within a time period to be set in light of the current talks between the Lebanese and Syrian military delegations, which aim to consolidate the military security in Lebanon.

Syrian Defense Minister Tours Ba'labakk

NC161141 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1117 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon received information stating that Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas arrived in Ba'labakk as part of a tour of the Syrian forces' positions in the Al-Biqa' area.

Major General Talas is accompanied by a large delegation of senior officers amid strict security measures.

We were informed that the Syrian forces imposed a tight cordon around the Ba'labakk citadel, where a luncheon is being given in honor of the Syrian defense minister.

Major General Talas' visit has been accompanied by successive flights of Israeli airplanes over the Al-Biqa', the mountain, and Beirut. These planes broke the sound barrier over the mountain and the Al-Biqa' at 1210. Another squadron of eight aircraft flew at low-altitude over Ba'labakk at 1300. The Israeli aircraft were met for the second time with intensive fire from antiaircraft guns along the area's ridges.

Birri Leaves for Consultations in Damascus 16 Sep

NC170535 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri, accompanied by Muhammad Baydun and Muhammad Shu'aytu, left unexpectedly last night for Damascus to meet with a number of Syrian officials for consultations on a number of issues pertaining to the ministerial conclaves and to receive the Syrian leadership's guidance in this regard.

Contacts were held last night between Ministers al-Huss and Junblatt within the framework of coordination prior to the ministerial conclaves. Informed sources said ministers Birri and Junblatt share the same views on all issues to be discussed in the conclaves.

Karami Comments on New Israeli Government

NC141905 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid Karami on the formation of the new Israeli Government on 14 September — place not given; recorded]

[Text] After long labor, a government of national unity was formed in Israel. This shows that the accord between the two major parties ultimately triumphed. We anticipated this because the government embodies the ambitions of the state, which constantly seeks to dominate and control the whole Arab region. Agreement on principles and goals adopted by the new government will not bring great hope for just and comprehensive solutions to our issues and problems. While the Israeli Government assumed power and the role required by this power, Prime Minister Peres declared that he is ready to try to emerge from the Lebanese swamp and to withdraw his army from the territory it occupies in the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, provided that the Galilee's security is ensured. This is the same slogan the Likud Government adopted as a pretext to occupy these parts of our territory. How can we interpret this agreement on goals as anything but differences over ways and means? We subsequently can find no great difference between the past and the present.

The patrol boat's visit to Beirut's coast and its gunfire attack on our land today shows the concealed intentions of the formation of the Israeli Government.

Our salvation rests in our own hands. If we, as Lebanese and Arabs, cannot achieve our rights and sovereignty and free our territory, there can be no room for us to achieve any progress. The proverb says: No one will help you if you do not help yourself.

Karami on Conclaves, Talks With Syrians, U.S. Veto

NC151341 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami held their weekly meeting today and discussed the latest security and political developments. This meeting comes amidst several promising developments that inspired optimism in political quarters. Among these developments is the decision reached by the Cabinet last Wednesday to hold ministerial conclaves in Bikfayya in order to fashion a new formula for the future Lebanon. Following the meeting, the prime minister said:

[Begin recording] [Karami] We have discussed what is taking place on the Lebanese arena as the ministerial conclaves are drawing near. We have both agreed that what is needed is an integrated program for political and security matters. This will help define the ways to deal with these matters and can supply a proper framework for pressing ahead for a step-by-step implementation of a plan of action.

We have encouraged the visit made by the Syrian military delegation. The delegation held talks with the commanders of the

Lebanese Army and with the president. These talks lead us to believe that the march which started when this government came to power will push ahead toward its goals of liberation, hope, and political reform.

[Unidentified reporter] In light of the visit paid by the Syrian delegation to Beirut, can we, Mr Prime Minister, expect some security measures to be launched hand in hand with the ministerial conclaves?

[Karami] Certainly. The Cabinet has discussed the security plans and left the issue of implementation to the [outcome of the] contacts which are presently taking place. The implementation is supposed to be carried out in stages. This calls for serious examination of these plans so as to enable the lawful authority to carry out its duties in full. Let me stress this point here: The authority of the state should be extended to every part of Lebanon and everyone should cooperate to formulate the program and help its implementation. This is the way to create a new Lebanon that is capable of fulfilling the aspiration of all its sons; in any other way we would not achieve the desired salvation.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, are you optimistic about the prospects of the ministerial conclaves?

[Karami] I have never abandoned my optimism. I have many reasons to be optimistic and this is not merely a tactic, but a firm belief. All the Lebanese, like myself, want a unified and liberated Lebanon. This calls for a new system and for a lawful authority that is capable of realizing the aspirations of the Lebanese.

[Reporter] Another subject, Mr Prime Minister. Today you met the U.S. ambassador to Beirut. This was the first such meeting after the U.S. veto in the Security Council against the Lebanese draft solution. Can you tell us about your talks with Ambassador Bartholomew?

[Karami] In fact, we want our relations with the United States to be conducted in friendship and mutual respect. We have our rights. We have this painful situation resulting from Israel's occupation of the south, of western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, and Israel's inhuman practices against our people and compatriots in these areas. This situation prompts us to act in order to stop these practices until arrnagements can be made to rid our soil of occupation.

This meeting was one of reproach and of exchanging views on the U.S. position. We understand the situation in the United States and the reasons why they sometimes feel constrained by commitments and by their own interests. However, we have the right to ask them to be more evenhanded in their dealing with other nations and to avoid tilting to one side at the expense of another. Whenever there is oppression, one must not side with the oppressor.

From my talk with his excellency the ambassador, I felt that they want to help Lebanon, stand by its side, and do their best to promote its case. Anyhow, let us set the past aside and concentrate on the present and the future. As I am saying, we are not looking for enemies or for trouble with anyone, even less with the United States. We hope that they understand our position and our feelings. We are simply pained by the injustice and by the abhorrent occupation imposed on us.

A new government has been formed in Israel. I do not find anything new in this government as compared with the previous one. When we consider the pitfalls in the formation of this government, apprehension overcomes us of another — and yet more serious — pitfall; namely, that the situation may remain the same. [end recording]

Birri on Talks With Syrians, Conclaves, Israel

NC151311 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The security plan in all its aspects is now the subject of discussion and debate between the Syrian military delegation, which arrived in Bikfayya yesterday, and the parties concerned in order to reach a comprehensive visualization facilitating the plan's implementation. In this framework, the Syrian military delegation met with Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], and with an Amal movement delegation in Shtawrah today. The conferees appraised the Syrian military delegation's discussions in Bikfayya yesterday.

Referring to today's meeting, Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, said:

The discussions held today between the Syrian military delegation and PSP and Amal movement representatives were aimed at establishing a unified stand regarding the details of the security plan for the mountain. He added: The important thing is to implement the plan in one stage from Al-Madfun to Al-Awwali. President Amin al-Jumayyil told me that he is prepared to do so. At any rate, we see no possibility of implementing a security plan which leaves a single inch behind in Al-Awwali.

Birri further said: This is a national political trend which is eradicating differences among the Lebanese and the possibility of a resumption of the fighting.

The minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs affirmed that the question of reopening the coastal road is an issue of political reconciliation. Answering a question on the ministerial conclaves, Birri said: We are not emotional. We will be going to the conclaves with an open heart, with resolution, and with an extended hand, particularly now that the principles have been embodied in the ministerial statement. We must study ways of translating these principles into deeds on the ground, eliminating all reservations and uniting efforts.

Birri said the constituent body must be formed on the basis of efficiency and not sectarianism. Regarding the investigation into the attempt on the life of [former] Prime Minister Salim al-Huss, the minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs said: We have requested the investigation to be expanded to include the interrogation of some officers, particularly Lieutenant Colonel Salah Mansur. The investigation has not yet ended.

Commenting on the new Israeli Government, Birri said: It is the weakest Israeli Government. The reason is that it is formed of two parties equally represented and that it has restored confidence in Ariel Sharon. We do not bet on government changes in Israel. We rely only on Lebanese unity and the adoption of the resistance to the occupation.

Karamah Urges Christian Unity, Comments on Conclave

NC160838 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpts] In an interview with the newspaper *AL-'AMAL*, Phalange Party leader Dr Elie Karamah called upon the people to rally around President Amin al-Jumayyil in order to defend the values in which we believe. He also called for Christian unity to complete the work of Pierre al-Jumayyil.

Dr Karamah said: The Phalange Party's elections were the first challenge to the party as an institution. They were the first victory for it and its founder, Pierre al-Jumayyil.

Dr Karamah said his goal and ambition are not to succeed Pierre al-Jumayyil as a leader but merely as the head of an institution in order to complete the Phalange Party's task.

Regarding rumors about divisions between the party and the Lebanese Forces, Dr Karamah said: We have reached a new stage in the Christian ranks. This stage did not exist 2 years ago. Everyone feels it is necessary to unite around the President in order to defend the values in which we believe.

He said the Lebanese Forces are a military organization of the Lebanese resistance, which assumed political dimensions in the hands of Bashir al-Jumayyil. He added: We would like the Lebanese Forces to continue to perform their role according to their regulations while, naturally, respecting the Phalange Party's regulations. Karamah disclosed that he discussed in detail with Pierre al-Jumayyil the question of new elections in the Lebanese Forces and that they drew up a program in this respect.

Turning to another point, Karamah said he does not expect the Bikfayya conclaves to produce miracles. He stressed the party's stand that the discussion of reform can only take place under suitable security atmospheres. He declined to speak about Syrian and Israeli options, saying: There is only a Lebanese option. It is the option of Lebanese legitimacy, and the party supports this legitimacy.

The Christian group, which believed that salvation would come from Israel, is now coming closer to President al-Jumayyil. Dr Karamah refuted the allegation that he is a temporary leader until President al-Jumayyil assumes the party's leadership after the end of his term as head of state.

He said: A person occupying a post in the party has no special position. The rules of democracy and order fully play their role at all times.

Regarding Syrian intentions, Karamah said: Syria's credibility is on the line. It is in its interests to reconcile all sides.

Phalangists To Have Firm Stances in Conclaves

NC161646 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Phalange Party Leader Dr Elie Karamah today said: At the ministerial conclaves we will have clear and firm stances within the guidelines decided upon by the party. He said: What is happening now appears as though it is a concession to superficial or protocol demands made by Minister Walid Junblatt or Nabih Birri. For our part we will attach no importance to formalities. Both of them must understand that there are limits beyond which they must not go. We have not surrendered, nor are we prepared to surrender or to submit to their terms or their views of Lebanon of the future.

Ministerial Conclave Convenes in Bikfayya 17 Sep

NC170856 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] The ministerial conclave began in the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya at 1100 today after all the ministers had arrived. Ministers Joseph Skaf, Joseph al-Hashim, Camille Sham'un, Salim al-Huss, and Victor Qasir first arrived at the presidential residence followed at 1040 by Ministers Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri. Minister Junblatt was accompanied by a delegation comprising Marwan Hamadah, Sami Yunis, Khalid Junblatt, Dahir Ghandur, 'Isam Nu'man, and Akram Shuhayyib. Minister Birri was accompanied by Muhammad Shu'aytu and Muhammad Baydun. Minister Skaf was accompanied by Dr Dawud al-Sayyigh and Nabih Ghanim. Minister al-Huss was accompanied by Mahmu Hatab and Fauq al-Barbir. These delegations accompanying the ministers will not attend the ministerial conclaves but will be summoned when necessary.

Karami Comments on Talks

NC171111 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] The first session of ministerial conclaves in Bikfayya ended at 1320 today. Prime Minister Karami and the ministers then proceeded to the High Hill Hotel in Bikfayya for lunch.

At the end of the first session of ministerial conclaves Prime Minister Karami made this statement:

[Begin Karami recording] I do not say that the conclave began with an exchange of blame; rather, it began with an exchange of views on the ideas that emerged during the past few weeks. We have ended up with an agenda that is inevitably in the essence of the Cabinet statement. The agenda defines the political issues proposed for discussion. We therefore started our talks with the issues of southern Lebanon, the western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya. The talks dealt with solutions for liberation. During this afternoon's session the conferees will hear a report by the security committee that has been entrusted with formulating the plan in light of the general idea. This will be discussed in the next session. We also discussed the aid proposed in a report by the Southern Lebanon Council. This will also be discussed in this afternoon's session, God willing. [end recording]

Junblatt on Confrontation With Phalangist 'Crusade'

NC161407 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] At a rally held today to mark the first anniversary of the death of Amir Majid Arslan, Walid Junblatt affirmed the continued confrontation of the Phalangist policy. He said: We are now facing a new crusade. Let us say it frankly and objectively: We are facing the so-called political Maronite. It is a school which was brought into Lebanon by the colonialists, be it the western or Israeli colonizer. He added: The political Maronite was previously a Sham'unite while now we are confronting the Phalangist assault which is the fiercest kind of political Maronite.

Before proceeding to Khaldah, Walid Junblatt inspected the Sabra and Shatila camps where he laid wreaths on graves of victims who fell as a result of the massacres committed by the Lebanese Forces 2 years ago under Israeli protection. Prayers were then said for the martyrs' souls.

Members of the political command of the Progressive Socialist Party and members of the Party Information Agency in Beirut have accompanied Junblatt on his tour to the Sabra and Shatila camps.

Franjiyah Criticizes U.S. Support for Israel

NC160901 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0622 GMT 16 Sep 84

["Text" of interview with former President Sulayman Franjiyah by Beirut magazine *AL-SHIRA'* on 11 September — read by announcer]

[Excerpt] Question: Has anything new occurred to allow you to agree to participate in the national unity government?

Answer: No. In fact, the person whom they wanted to be my representative is now in Europe.

Question: What is your opinion about the appointment of Joseph al-Hashim as a Cabinet minister?

Answer: I only know this person by name. I have not followed his political career. Only God Almighty knows what he will offer.

Question: In your opinion, will Pierre al-Jumayyil's death affect the Phalangists' stand?

Answer: I cannot answer this question, because I have no relationship with any Phalangist, either in Lebanon or abroad.

Question: You are known for your tough attitude toward the United States. What is your view on U.S. attitudes toward Lebanon?

Answer: I was a president. Had we possessed an ounce of courage, we should have severed our diplomatic and economic relations with the United States 24 hours following the adoption of its stand.

Question: You therefore endorse Prime Minister Karami's stand toward the United States.

Answer: Talk is one thing, action another. We want action. It is imperative for us to impose on the United States respect for what the United States itself advocates; that is, the Helsinki Charter. The Americans sing in praise of this Charter. The enemy entered our territory 2 years ago, occupied it, murdered our people, and demolished our houses. Has any one of us, Arab or otherwise, heard a word denouncing this aggression from even one American?

The U.S. Secretary of State spent 40 years in Arab countries. He has amassed what is now estimated to be the greatest wealth in the world from our Arab brothers' money. [sentences as heard] He has forgotten everything. Today, we feel that, just like his President, he is subject to Israel's will.

Question: Some people hope for a change in U.S. attitudes following the presidential election. What is your opinion?

Answer: I doubt this. Among the presidents who have ruled the United States, there is only one deserving appreciation and respect — General Eisenhower. When Israel, in conjunction with France and England, attacked sisterly Egypt, General Eisenhower stood like a man. Furthermore, and within 48 hours, he had halted the aggression.

Since then, all Israel's actions on Arab territory have been carried out with the knowledge and consent of U.S. officials. We cannot forget Haig's statement when asked whether he had been aware of Israel's intention to attack Lebanon. Haig said: Yes.

Meanwhile, and at least once a week, we hear protests by the U.S. President and his aides against the Soviet presence in Afghanistan. I wonder, is Afghanistan more important than the Arab states that are being attacked by Israel?

Islamic Delegation Returns From Damascus Talks

NC151926 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The Islamic delegation returned to Tripoli from Damascus tonight after meeting with Syrian officials.

Upon arrival in Tripoli, member of the delegation engineer 'Abdallah Babitti met with Prime Minister Rashid Karami and also with leader of the Islamic Unification Movement, Sa'id Sha'ban.

After his return from Damascus, engineer Babitti made the following statement:

[Begin Babitti recording] We returned from Damascus where we met for 2 hours with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in the presence of leaders of the Arab Democratic Party. We discussed all aspects of the situation and drew up a program for radical solutions, God willing. We will ratify the agreement in this respect this coming Monday [17 September]. [end recording]

Al-Turk on Protection for Foreign Embassies

NC161648 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk, the Foreign Ministry's secretary general, stated that a committee comprising representatives from the Foreign Ministry, Defense Ministry, Army, and Public Security Department has been formed to safeguard the security of foreign embassies in Lebanon. In a statement the magazine *MONDAY MORNING* will publish tomorrow, Al-Turk said: The Saudi consulate incident has greatly disturbed us, and we regret and denounce this incident. We are following up the matter in order to prevent a repetition of what happened and to bring the Saudi mission back to Lebanon and enable it to function normally.

Ambassador Al-Turk said: If the security plan is implemented in Beirut, the mountain, and the south, and if we provide sufficient protection to Saudi establishments and other missions in Lebanon, then I expect we will be able to have the Saudi colleagues among us. He explained that all the diplomats who left the country temporarily during the incidents have returned. There is no embassy in Lebanon that is closed now. He said: We understand what happened to the Saudi Embassy, and we hope the Saudis will also understand our situation. We also hope the Saudi diplomats' absence from Lebanon will not be long.

In reply to a question on Arab aid to Lebanon, Ambassador al-Turk said: Arab differences have greatly affected us. But, at the coming Arab summit conference scheduled for the end of November in Saudi Arabia, we hope the Arabs will continue giving economic aid to Lebanon now that the political situation has become known. There is a plan to set up a $10 billion fund for reconstructing the areas devastated by the Israeli invasion.

Netherlands, Sweden Approve Extension to UNIFIL

NC151930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The Netherlands and Sweden announced their advance approval of extending their contingents' terms with UNIFIL in south Lebanon. Senegal decided not to extend its contingent's term in the south and regarded its decision as official and final.

VOL Reports Israeli Air Raid in Al-Biqa'

NC151525 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Security sources in the Al-Biqa' and Beirut reported that Israeli warplanes raided armed positions in the vicinity of Dayr al-Ghazal at 1630 today. The planes were confronted by antiaircraft fire.

RFL: No Official Confirmation

NC151453 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1448 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Security sources this afternoon said that Israeli warplanes raided military positions in Dayr al-Ghazal near Riyaq in the Al-Biqa' at approximately 1630. There have been no further reports, and the report on the raids has not yet been officially confirmed.

President Al-Asad Confers With Libya's Jallud

JN141740 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution command in Libya, at 1800 today. Vice president 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam attended the meeting. The talks evolved around the situation in the region, developments in the Arab arena, and matters of common interest.

Jallud Ends Visit, Departs

JN151603 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution command in Libya, left Damascus today, concluding a 2-day visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad. Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Foreign Minister, Faruq al-Shar' the chief of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department, the charge d'affaires of the Libyan Liaison Bureau in Damascus, and the bureau's members saw him off at Damascus International Airport.

Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah Visits

Meets With Khaddam

JN151440 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 15 sep 84

[Text] Damascus — A meeting was held at the guest palace at 1530 today between 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the vice president, and Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, Saudi crown prince, first deputy prime minister, and National Guard commander. The meeting was attended on the Syrian side by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Social Affairs and Labor Minister Yusuf Ju'aydani and on the Saudi side by National Guard Deputy Commander Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri and Labor Minister Muhammad al-Fayiz. Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz arrived in Damascus at 1500 today.

Al-Asad Confers With Prince

JN151747 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince, first deputy prime minister, and National Guard commander, at 1915 today. Saudi Labor Minister Muhammad al-Fayiz and National Guard Deputy Commander Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri attended the meeting. The president and Prince 'Abdallah then held a closed meeting during which they reviewed the situation in the region and the Arab arena as well as issues related to Lebanon and bilateral relations.

Talks With Prince Resume

JN161207 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] At 1100 today, President Hafiz al-Asad resumed his talks with Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince, first deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard. They held two meetings. The first was attended by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri, deputy commander of the National Guard. The second was a closed meeting between the president and the Saudi crown prince. The talks during the two meetings dealt with the developments in the region, the current situation in Lebanon, the Arab situation in general, and bilateral relations.

Crown Prince Concludes Visit

JN161358 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1325 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus, 16 Sep (SANA) — Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince, first deputy prime minister, and head of the National Guard, left Damascus this afternoon after a 2-day visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad. Prince 'Abdallah was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the deputy prime ministers, ministers, the Saudi ambassador in Damascus, and the Saudi Embassy staff.

Khaddam Meets Lebanese Delegations From Tripoli

JN151045 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met this morning with the Islamic Grouping delegation and the members of the Arab Democratic Party leadership to discuss political and security matters pertaining to the situation in Tripoli prior to the implementation of the security plan on Monday. A preparatory meeting for this purpose was held yesterday.

Agreement Reached Between Delegations

JN151147 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] A joint meeting was held in Damascus this morning between the leaders of the Islamic Grouping and the Arab Democratic Party under Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. They reviewed all aspects of the problem in Tripoli and both parties' suggestions to end this problem quickly and comprehensively. An agreement was reached on the points presented by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in preparation for drawing up a final formula to adopt the necessary measures for signing a general and comprehensive agreement between the two parties — an agreement that will restore Tripoli's stability. Thus, Tripoli will be able to assume its Arab and Islamic role in the Lebanese arena, to confront Israel's occupation of the south, Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, and to contribute to the future of an Arab and united Lebanon.

Next Monday has been the date set to conclude the agreement between the Islamic Grouping and the Arab Democratic Party in Damascus under Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

PFLP Delegation, Al-Zu'bi Hold Talks

JN161428 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus, 16 Sep (SANA) — PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash has expressed great appreciation for Syria's principled stands toward the Palestinian cause under President Hafiz al-Asad — stands aimed at realizing the Palestinian people's objectives of liberation, return, and establishment of their own independent state on their national soil. This came during a meeting today between People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and a number of PFLP Political Bureau members led by Dr Habash.

At the beginning of the meeting, Al-Zu'bi asserted Syria's pan-Arab, principled, and firm stands toward the Palestinian cause. He emphasized the importance of Palestinian cohesion to confront capitulatory schemes aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause at the expense of the Palestinian people's rights. During the meeting the two sides reviewed the current situation in the Arab arena in general and in the Palestinian arena in particular.

U.S. Tries To Hide Aims of New Israeli Government

JN141412 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Ladies and Gentlemen: With the formation of the new Israeli Government, the specifications of the forthcoming move by U.S. diplomacy, which was behind pooling all the political forces in Israel behind the government of Peres and Shamir, have become clear. The Western news media, which are commissioned to cover up future U.S. moves as well as the intentions of NATO in the Middle East, are concerned with defending the expanded government in Israel and describing it in a way that would conceal facts and depict Israel as being more inclined toward solitude and peace.

At a time when the Israeli prime minister stressed that the strength of the Israeli Army is a goal, that bolstering the U.S.-Israeli alliance is an objective, and that settlements constitute a strategy for the comprehensive policy of both Zionism and Israel, the Western news media described Shim'on Peres' call on Jordan for negotiations as a shift in Israel's policy toward peace. The U.S. game, whose most prominent feature is embodied in the formation of the new Israeli Government, takes into consideration the fact that Peres' government should enjoy the support of all forces that influence the Israeli decision as well as the support of those who wagered on the Zionist Labor Party and imagined that Peres' government is the hope for peace in the entire region. Although the aims and purposes of the new U.S. game are exposed, the dangers of this game do not lie in the new government in Israel, but in Western liberalism's effort to display Israel as peaceful and the Arabs as enemies of peace.

Since Peres promised that the Israeli Government will not recognize the Palestinian people and their rights or be an obstacle to the settlement organizations, and that it will be the government of the Israeli Army, there is no doubt that it needs someone who can cover up its aims and trends. This is the only interpretation for the simultaneous announcement of the Peres government and the convocation of the Tel Aviv conference of Western and pro-Western world Liberal Party representatives.

Israel, while getting ready for the stage of U.S. regional security in the Middle East, is now in dire need of creating circumstances under which the Arabs can be subjugated to complete the delusion by means of playing tricks on the requesites of peace and the world forces that call for peace and that condemn Israel as the deadliest enemy of a just and real peace. Thus came Peres' call for peace negotiations and the moves of Socialist International forces in their Tel Aviv conference. In the same manner as the Zionist news media began their deceptive campaign, the imperialist West embarked on a campaign that complemented the Zionist news media campaigns in Israel and the world. When saying that it is studying withdrawal from Lebanon, Israel does not conceal that terrorist Sharon, leader of the Zionist invasion, has returned to lead the invasion in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights, and the Galilee. When Israel says that it will make peace with Jordan, it does not conceal the fact that it needs to [include] Jordan's bank in Israel's temporary borders.

Thus, it becomes clear that any Israeli Government, whether led by the Likud or the Ma'arakh, will be hostile and expansionist. As for U.S. diplomacy, it is the inevitable cover for any Israeli move. This makes the coming stage more dangerous than the previous ones in the chain of plots against the Arab nation. Therefore, the only option the Arabs have is to observe the serious features of the government in Israel and to beware of the U.S. game.

It has become clear that the United States has not forgotten its defeat in Lebanon and is seeking to take revenge by imprisoning the Arab citizen everywhere in the large homeland and by liquidating the Arab issue of Palestine, thus depending on its alliance with Israel and on the spirit of defeatism which the United States is trying to spread in Arab circles. However, all plots, regardless of their forms and methods of action, will be doomed to failure and disappointment. They will founder as a result of Syrian steadfastness that is backed by the Arab masses.

Cabinet Meets 16 Sep; $1 Billion Budget Cut Set

TA161024 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1016 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The Cabinet has decided to cut $1 billion from its budget this very week. The Cabinet session ended a few minutes ago. Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that during the session, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i presented the ministers with his plan to cut $1 billion from the state budget. The Cabinet authorized the finance minister and Economics Minister Gad Ya'aqobi to carry out the cut this week. If differences of opinion are discovered, they will be brought to the prime minister and his deputy for resolution. The finance minister will soon give a detailed announcement.

Further Details

TA161853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The Cabinet wants to deal with the economy as quickly as possible and its first session was devoted mainly to discussing a cut in the state budget. Prime Minister Shim'on Peres will call another session this week to discuss the economic plan. Our correspondents Hayim Zissovitz and Me'ir Einstein sum up the first session of the 22d Israeli Government:

[Begin recording] [Einstein] At long last, there is a Cabinet decision in the economic field. Although this is only a decision in principle to cut $1 billion from the state budget, it gives the finance minister the go-ahead to take economic measures in the very near future.

At the same time, Minister Moda'i wanted to appease the public today. He said that savings would not be affected and that the burden would be fairly distributed. In the Cabinet session, the finance minister painted a gloomy picture of the economic situation and made it clear to his colleagues that immediate action is necessary to heal the ailing economy.

[Moda'i] The Cabinet agreed that the economic situation is very bad. The Cabinet is unanimous in its opinion that through action initiated by the government it will be possible to heal the economy within a reasonable period of time.

[Einstein] The Cabinet empowered the finance minister and Economics Minister Gad Ya'aqobi to confer with all the ministers as early as this week to decide on the cuts required in the various ministries. In cases where no agreement is reached, the issue will be submitted to Peres and Shamir for their decision. It is very likely that Peres and Shamir will be called on to intervene more than once.

A hint of the tough confrontations expected to emerge in the practical deliberations on the cuts was given in the session today by several ministers who expressed reservations about the finance minister's proposal. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that before the budget to purchase aircraft and tanks is reduced, it is necessary to cut the allocations for settlements and other areas. Moshe Qatzav, the new labor and welfare minister, said that concern for the needy is no less an important goal than fighting inflation and improving the balance of payments. David Levi, deputy prime minister and housing and construction minister, cautioned against steps that might lead to increased unemployment. Yitzhaq Navon, deputy prime minister and education minister, said that the cuts must not be identical in all fields, but that an order of priorities must be set. Yiga'el Hurvitz, who expressed support for the finance minister, took pains to remind everybody that the Bank of Israel governor had proposed a $1.5 billion cut in the budget.

Well, all these were relevant reservations which did not stem from partisan affiliations. The situation was summed up well by Energy Minister Moshe Shahal:

[Shahal] The session actually crossed some lines, and I think that is the way it should be.

[Einstein] Other issues raised at the Cabinet session today: At the request of David Levi, and with the agreement of Ari'el Sharon, the debate on the appointment of deputy ministers was postponed. The Cabinet decided to establish the Ministry of Police and approved the appointment of Binyamin Netanyahu as Israel's ambassador to the United Nations.

The next session will be held this week to discuss the economic plan. [end recording]

Meanwhile, it has been officially announced that the inner Cabinet will include Peres, Bar-Lev, Weizman, Navon, and Rabin of the Alignment; and Shamir, Arens, Levi, Moda'i, and Sharon of the Likud, for a total of 10 ministers. Our correspondent points out that the composition of the economic inner Cabinet has not yet been determined.

New Government Settlement Terms Reported

TA160908 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Sep 84 pp 1,8

[Report by David Landau and Asher Wallfish]

[Text] One of the first of the five to six new settlements to be erected this year by the unity government will go up in Samaria, close to the 1967 border. This has already been agreed informally between Lukud and Labour, a high Likud source said last night.

Under the terms of the government's guidelines, five to six settlements out of the 28 approved by the previous government but not yet erected are to go up during the government's first year in office. Their location is to be decided upon "within one week of the government's taking office."

The Likud source said this decision would be made in informal discussions between Likud and Labour leaders, and would then be formally ratified by the Cabinet.

The sources implied that apart from the one settlement in Samaria already agreed upon, (near Tulkarm) the other four to five would be within the confines of Labour's plan.

As to the one near Tulkarm, the Likud will be able to argue that it is (a) in Samaria and (b) outside the confines of the Allon Plan, while Labour will be able to contend that it is close to the "Green Line" and therefore accords with "minor border adjustments" which Labour advocates in an eventual peace plan. As for the remaining 22-23 out of the list of 28, they are to be erected "in the subsequent years," according to the policy guidelines document, "the timing to be determined by the national unity Cabinet in its plenary."

This latter provision is effectively neutralized, however, by a provision in the Likud-Labour coalition agreement stipulating specifically that "every issue, including those which the policy guidelines say should be discussed in the Cabinet plenary, will be discussed and decided upon in the "inner Cabinet" — if either the premier or the deputy premier so requests." The "inner cabinet" or ministerial security committee is to comprise 10 ministers, five from Likud and five from Labour.

Members of Knesset [MK's] (Citizens Rights Movement) Shulamit Aloni and Yosi Sarid yesterday said they have in their possession the list of 28 settlements approved by the previous government. The MK's said the list has been accepted by the unity government.

Aloni and Sarid said that in 13 of these planned settlements, infrastructure and roadwork have been begun, and that no order has been given to halt this work. They said that on two additional sites, settlers are already inhabiting tents.

Labour's cabinet minister Ya'aqov Tzur (Absorption) last night said that Aloni and Sarid's charges are nonsense. Tzur, an associate of Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, said, "It is Rabin's job to supervise all settlements in the areas, and you can be sure that he will only permit projects which are covered by the basic policy gudielines which he signed last week."

He said that the five or six settlements mentioned in paragraph 15b of the guidelines had not yet been agreed upon. The Likud submitted to Labour a list of these five or six which Labour had rejected. Labour would not accept any new places which were not in either the Jordan Valley or the 'Ezyon vicinity of Jerusalem, he said.

Tzur said that Labour had accepted the Likud's demand during the negotiations that decisions by previous governments about new settlements would not be revoked. But paragraph 15c of the guidelines made it plain that there was no commitment to implement these decisions during the four years of the present government.

Peres To Ask Extra $750 Million From U.S.

TA171154 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 17 Sep 84 p 2

[Report by political affairs correspondent]

[Excerpt] During his talks in Washington, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres intends to ask for additional U.S. aid to Israel amounting to $750 million.

Peres announced his intention to visit the United States in the near future during yesterday's Cabinet meeting. In reaction to the U.S. Administration's position that it is preferable that he come to Washington with a consolidated economic plan, Peres pointed to the second session of the government scheduled for this Thursday, which will deal with the economic issue. Peres hopes that during this week the economic policy guidelines will be consolidated in a way which will allow him to to hold meaningful talks in Washington. The date for Peres' visit has not yet been set.

Prime Minister Peres Discusses Peace Strategy

TA160723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres made his first public appearance last night before representatives of the Liberal International, including the Premier of Iceland, Mrs Simone Veil, and Yitzhaq Shamir, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Shim'on Peres told the visitors that the time has come for both Israel and its neighbors to adopt the peace strategy for the sake of our children's future and that of Jews, Arabs, and everyone else. Meron Tzur was with the members of the Liberal International who listened to the prime minister.

[Tzur — live] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' maiden speech last night concentrated on the establishment of the government he heads. This is a new experiment, he said; a free, democratic country can handle various opinions.

[Begin Peres recording — in English] Here we are trying to build a democratic Cabinet, which will be based on consensus, rather than on reinforcements or decisions. [end recording]

[Tzur] We are trying here, said Shim'on Peres, to build a democratic government based on agreement more than on use of fiat or determinations [hakhra'a o hahlatot]. This government does not have a majority within it. We are now trying to remain free and, at the same time, united.

[Begin Peres recording — in English] We are divided on many issues. Then we have to face immediate challenges for the good of our people, so we took those portions of our national and political life which unite us and try to act and decide by a system of mutual conviction. [end recording]

[Tzur] The prime minister said we are divided on several issues, so we have to meet many of the pressing challenges for the good of our people. From this it follows that we are taking those elements of our political life that unite us and we try to work and make decisions based on mutual conviction. In our case, to rule means to persuade more than to determine [lehahlit]. You wish me success, Peres said. There is nothing new in the fact that doubts and skepticism are expressed; people are not very confident; but here I remember, the prime minister said, the words of the founder of the state, David Ben-Gurion.

[Begin Peres recording — in English] The founder of our state, David Ben-Gurion, once remarked that all experts are experts for things that did happen. You can hardly find an expert for things that may happen. [end recording]

[Tzur] David Ben-Gurion once said that all the experts are expert about things that have already happened. We have not yet found experts for things that might happen, and we are trying something new, in the hope that we will succeed, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said.

Peres on Lebanon Withdrawal, Peace With Jordan
TA170646 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres last night talked of an early end to Israel's military presence in Lebanon and a peace initiative from Israel to Jordan. He was speaking before a 1,000-strong audience of the United Jewish Appeal [UJA] meeting in Jerusalem. More from Hugh Blaukopf:

[Begin recording] [Blaukopf] There was a decided symmetry in Mr Peres' appearance before the UJA leaders. An audience, which has set itself a goal of raising $700 million in 1985, heard the new prime minister enumerate the goals which he defined for the national unity government he now leads. Withdrawal from Lebanon, Peres affirmed, despite certain differences between Likud and Labor, was a goal which united the government.

[Peres] We want to secure the Galilee, the northern part of Israel, and then bring our boys back home [applause] and relieve our Army from an engagement which became so controversial in the eyes of the Israeli people, in the eyes of the Jewish people, in the eyes of the world. Hopefully, we shall be able to accomplish this misison in a matter of several months.

[Blaukopf] Differences also divided Likud and Labor on what Mr Peres called: the road to peace. While Likud believes that the wholeness of Israel is a condition for its security, Labor felt the integrity of the state as a Jewish state was the precondition for the future peace of the Jewish people. Yet Peres said there was an agreement in the government to sit together and issue a call to Israel's neighbors, starting with Jordan, to begin a dialogue for a future not of belligerency but of coexistence on the human, social, and economic level. Inevitably, the restoration of Israel's ailing economy, a problem tackled head-on at the new government's first Cabinet session this week, figured in the prime minister's master plan. [end recording]

West Bank Dignitaries Congratulate Peres
TA152021 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1945 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Hebron, 15 Sep (ITIM) — Public figures in Judaea and Samaria over the weekend sent congratulatory messages to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres upon entering office.

The ITIM correspondent in Judaea reports that in their messages the dignitaries expressed their hope and expectation that now the way will be opened to negotiations with Jordan and that the Palestinian problem will be solved. It should be noted that since his term as defense minister and throughout the Alignment's time in opposition, Peres preserved strong ties with people in the area. He often exchanged messages through them — and mainly through Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj — with King Husayn.

The dismissed mayor of Hebron, Dr Mustafa al-Natshah, said this weekend that with the appointment of Yitzhaq Rabin as defense minister, the Arab inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria hope that there will be a change from the Likud's policy in the territories.

Dr Haydar al-Shafi, who is the head of the Gaza Red Crescent branch and who is considered an extremist in his opinions, said that the national unity government is "bad for the Arabs just like the previous government, because the Likud and the Alignment are two sides of the same coin."

Rabin Predicts Early Withdrawal From Lebanon
TA160711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said we can withdraw from Lebanon within an extremely short period of time. The government, Rabin said, is determined to guarantee the Galilee's safety without keeping the IDF in Lebanon any longer than necessary, and to leave there as soon as conditions make this possible. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the defense minister told leaders of the United Jewish Appeal that Syria is the main threat to Israel, and he is not prepared to predict if or when a war will break out. The main IDF mission is to prevent war.

Further Comment
TA170913 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Sep 84 p 3

[Greer Fay Cashman report]

[Text] Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said yesterday that the new government is united on its commitment to ensure a normal life for the residents of Galilee, and said that this can be achieved without the deployment of Israeli forces in Lebanon. He hinted that the Israel Defence Forces would be withdrawn in "months not years."

Speaking to the leadership conference of the United Jewish Appeal at Binyaney Ha'uma in Jerusalem, in his first public speech since becoming defence minister, Rabin said that the initial drive into Lebanon had achieved a national consensus, but the extended war had "brought about a divisiveness that I cannot recall in any of the wars that preceded the Lebanon war."

Rabin stressed that the economic plan is the key to the government's success. The balance of payments deficit "reached a peak that we did not believe was possible."

Terming the economic issue as "crucial," Rabin gave one example of the manner in which Israel's economic strength determines her military power. Israel has to maintain military strength far beyond her economic capabilities, he said. Israel's tank force has to be quantitatively and qualitatively stronger than that of Britain, France or the German Federal Republic. "It has to be strong enough to defend itself against any combination of Arab armies" without being dependent on outside assistance.

As far as defence is concerned, said Rabin, "Israel is in relatively good shape" — without threats from Iraq, which is stuck to its eastern front as a result of its war with Iran, and no threat from the south, because "there is peace with Egypt."

The only real threat, Rabin said, is from Syria because of its hostile policy to Israel, aggravated by the presence of both Israeli and Syrian forces in Lebanon. Rabin stressed that the main task of the Israel Defence Forces and the defence policy of Israel is to prevent war. "The best war" he said "is the war that is avoided."

But if war cannot be averted, Rabin said emphatically, Israel will "defeat the attacking forces in the shortest and most decisive way."

Rabin said he is convinced that Lebanon's political future will not be decided by either the U.S. or Israel but by Syria backed by the Soviet Union.

Noting that neither of the two major parties in the government has given up its basic position, Rabin pointed to the wide gap in attitudes on the continuation of the peace process, the ultimate solution to the differences between Israel and the Arab world, and the kind of Israel to which either party aspires.

"Sharp divisions and antagonisms" of a political, religious and ethnic nature "endanger the unity of our nation" said Rabin.

Nabulus Figures Consider Meeting With Rabin

TA161119 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 16 Sep 84 p 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that important figures from Nabulus, including Hikmat al-Masri, are examining the possibility of meeting with the new defense minister, Yitzhaq Rabin, over Nabulus problems, and, particularly, the closure of the Al-Najah University. Our correspondent has learned that there is U.S. involvement in the matter of the university. Not long ago U.S. diplomat Richard Murphy met in Washington with a member of the Palestinian lobby, Professor Hisham Shar'abi, to discuss the closure of the university, and Arab sources told our correspondent that the U.S. diplomat promised to raise the matter with the new Israeli Government.

Shekel Devalued by 9 Percent; Other Steps Seen

TA170537 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] The shekel was devalued last night by 9 percent, and the exchange rate of the dollar now stands at 399 shekels. In the Treasury it is said that this is an anticipatory step toward the comprehensive economic plan. The price of fuel also goes up by 9 percent. People in the Bank of Israel are not happy about the devaluation, but say that it can be accepted if it is indeed integrated in a comprehensive plan. Treasury sources promise that this is a one-time step which will not be repeated.

Our economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik expects that the Treasury will decide on a one-time property tax and a purchase tax on goods, including fuel and cigaretes, as early as this week. On some of the goods, the tax will amount to several dozen percent. The property tax will probably be in the vicinity of 1.5 percent. The value added tax will also be raised by 2 to 3 percent.

In the last two weeks, fuel prices rose by about 20 percent. Our correspondent Me'ir Einsten notes that the price of fuel still falls approximately 20 percent below its actual cost.

Interior Ministry Shuns Herzog's Nazareth Visit

TA160917 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] The Interior Ministry boycotted President Hayim Herzog's visit to Nazareth on Thursday, and no government representative was present at the various welcoming ceremonies for the president organized by Mayor Taqfiq Zayyad, MK [Knesset Member] for the Communist-led Democratic Front for Peace and Equality.

Northern District representative Yisra'el Koenig opposed the president's visit to Nazareth, claiming that it would be regarded as a political act, encouraging the town's Communist administration. At a meeting with Koenig prior to the visit, Herzog rejected these objections, stressing that he is the president of all of Israel's citizens. He demanded that proper arrangements be made for his reception in Nazareth.

The arrangements were indeed made, but primarily by the Nazareth municpality. According to Zayyad, the spontaneous and warm welcome for the president exceeded all expectations.

Herzog intends to pursue the matter, it is learned, and will write a letter to the interior minister — now prime Minister Shim'on Peres — demanding an explanation why the Northern District representative or his deputy was not present at the visit.

Herzog To Attend Arnhem Anniversary Ceremonies

TA160644 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Israeli president Hayim Herzog is to leave for the Netherlands today, to attend ceremonies marking the 40th anniversary of the Allies' victory over the Germans at Arnhem. The president will also be the guest of the Jewish community in Amsterdam, and will meet with members of the government of the Netherlands, the prime minister, and Queen Beatrix.

Herut Power Struggle Said To Reach Showdown

TA170909 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Sep 84 p 1

[David Landau, Asher Wallfish, and Michal Yudelman report]

[Excerpts] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir let it be known yesterday that he would consider bringing his simmering dispute with other Herut leaders to a showdown at the party's Central Committee unless the sniping against him ceased.

His most outspoken detractor, on the other hand, former Finance Minister Yoram Aridor, demanded that the Central Committee set an early date for party elections to choose a new leadership. Aridor is chairman of the Herut Secretariat.

Shamir suffered something of a setback at the Cabinet meeting yesterday when Deputy Premier David Levi, who has been supporting the anti-Shamir camp, blocked the appointment of deputy ministers by requesting a seven-day deferment of the issue.

Shamir reportedly intended proposing two of his close party confidants, Mikha'el Deqel and Roni Milo, to the key posts of deputy defence minister and deputy foreign minister respectively.

Last night, sources close to Shamir said he was still determined to go through with these appointments, despite the opposition of half of the Herut Knesset faction.

Ministers David Levi and Ari'el Sharon and eleven other Herut Knesset members have written to Shamir demanding that MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar be appointed deputy defence minister.

The sources said Shamir is confident he has the support of at least 60 percent of the Herut Central Committee against the combined forces of Levi and Sharon.

He believes he cannot back off now without suffering an intolerable erosion of his authority and leadership. He feels, too, that a pitched battle at this time, ending in his victory, will put paid to the challenges against him for a considerable time to come.

Aridor made the call for internal party elections yesterday at a meeting of Herut activists and branch leaders.

Regarding the demand for internal elections in Herut, party sources say that even if the Central Committee sets a date, it will not be till spring 1985.

One strong card that Shamir seems to hold is the near-certainty that a change in the Herut leadership will mean the downfall of the national unity government.

Labour's commitment to this government, and to "rotation" of the premiership half-way through its term, is predicated explicitly on Shamir's remaining Likud leader. Any new Likud leader will require, under the terms of the coalition agreement, endorsement by Labour if the unity arrangement is to continue.

French Minister Defferre on Closer Cooperation

TA141521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] French minister Gaston Defferre, who is currently visiting Israel, has said his government is interested in closer cooperation with the new Israeli government. Defferre, who is also the mayor of Marseilles, told correspondents in Haifa that he hopes to meet with Shim'on Peres and give him a letter of friendship and encouragement from the president of France. The visiting minister, who is in charge of long-term planning, said he is particularly interested in closer ties in the fields of technology and robotics.

Delivers Mitterrand Message

TA161421 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1336 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] A short time ago, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres conferred with French Minister Gaston Defferre, who conveyed a message from French President Francois Mitterrand. In the message, Mitterrand promises Peres that their personal, friendly relations and political ties will continue, and invites Peres to visit France.

Mitterrand Invited To Visit

TA161907 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Prime Minister Peres has invited French President Francois Mitterrand to visit Israel. The invitation was extended at a meeting today between the prime minister and visiting French Planning Minister Gaston Defferre. Defferre has been visiting Israel in his capacity as mayor of Marseille, which has a twin city agreement with Haifa.

Urquhart To Hold Talks With Kimche on UNIFIL Role

TA170701 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] The UN undersecretary general will meet the Foreign Ministry director general this morning. The two will talk about extending the role of the UN forces in southern Lebanon. The official reason for Urquhart's visit to the area is the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate, which expires next month. Our correspondent Alan Ben-'Ami notes that Urquhart will also visit Beirut and Damascus, and will return to Israel over the weekend to meet with the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the defense minister. Our correspondent notes that Israel is interested in broadening the role of UNIFIL and deploying UN soldiers in the buffer zone between the IDF and the Syrian Army in eastern Lebanon.

Further Talks Planned

TA171217 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] United Nations Undersecretary Brian Urquhart flew to Beirut this morning after a preliminary round of talks with the director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, on southern Lebanon and the UN peace-keeping role there. Urquhart is visiting Jerusalem, Beirut, and Damascus to talk to officials about their views of the situation before the renewal of UNIFIL's mandate next month.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem described this morning's meeting as one of preliminary talks in which matters of substance were not discussed. Urquhart is to return to Israel on Wednesday and will have further talks with Kimche, as well as meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and possibly Foreign Minister Shamir and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. Both Shamir and Rabin have talked in the past of the need to achieve an expanded role for UNIFIL as part of security arrangements leading to an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Remarks by Egyptian Envoy to USSR Seen Ambiguous

TA161253 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Today the new Egyptian ambassador to the Soviet Union was quoted as saying that if solidarity among the Arab countries is renewed, the Camp David accords may be cancelled. This remark was attributed to Egyptian Ambassador Salah Basyuni by the KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY. The remark was picked up by our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus.

However, the Egyptian media do not repeat this remark. Israeli elements say they expect that Egypt will soon clarify what was meant by this statement, especially as Egypt's Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today spoke in the Egyptian Parliament about continued aspirations for a comprehensive peace.

French Paper Says Talks With Syria Fail

TA160927 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 16 Sep 84 p 3

[Gid'on Kuts "exclusive" report from Paris]

[Text] Last week secret talks were held between Israeli and Syrian officers.

The weekly *NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR*, which carries this report, notes that the talks failed. Their goal was to arrive at a "coexistence" arrangement in Lebanon.

The weekly writes that limited clashes are now to be expected between Syrian and Israeli units in Lebanon.

Rafah Mayor Attacked, Condition Critical

TA141827 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1825 GMT 14 sep 84

[Text] Here is a report that has just arrived. The mayor of Rafah was shot in the head this evening and his condition is critical. Our correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov reports that it is not yet clear under what circumstances he was shot or by whom. The security services have begun investigating.

Dies of Wound

TA141905 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Rafah Mayor 'Abd al-Khalim Mansur has been murdered. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that at about 2000 [1800 GMT] this evening, the Rafah mayor was shot in the head and died. The circumstances of the murder are not yet known. The security services have begun an investigation in Rafah.

Police Detain Four

TA151828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Rafah police have so far detained four people suspected of assassinating Mayor 'Abd al-Hamid Qishtah. The police commander of the Gaza Subdistrict said that the assassins waylaid him last night after he returned from prayer in a mosque in the town's center, shot him in the back of the head, and fled on foot.

Television Report on Pro-Jibril Prisoners

JN142000 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1750 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Members of Ahmad Jibril's organization detained in Israel have expressed hope that they will be released and allowed to return to their families and kinsmen in exchange for the release of the three Israeli prisoners detained by their organization. Our correspondent Shlomo Ganor discusses their detention and general condition in the following report:

[Begin video recording] [Ganor] This is the square of one of the Israeli prisons. Over 100 members of the PFLP-GC, which is headed by Ahmad Jibril, are detained in a special wing of this prison. Most of them were detained during and after the Peace for Galilee operation. Israel has expressed its readiness more than once to release them in exchange for the three Israeli prisoners who are detained by Jibril's organization. Although the Geneva convention on POW's does not apply to these detainees, still the Israeli authorities are giving them every facility. International Red Cross representatives are allowed to visit them. The detainees are also allowed to send and receive letters. Both the detainees and the Israeli authorities share the desire to end this situation quickly.

[Unidentified detainee] After breakfast every morning we come out for half an hour in the square to play soccer. We also play in the afternoon for half an hour. We have a bath twice a week. We also shave three times a week. We sometimes read books and play chess or backgammon.

[Ganor] Are there books?

[Unidentified detainee] Yes, there are books, but not many.

[Ganor] Are you visited by the Red Cross?

[Unidentified detainee] Yes, we are visited once a month or every 21 days.

[Ganor] This is one of the squares where the detainees spend some time very day. Soccer is the favorite pastime. What has caught our attention is that most of the detainees prefer to remain silent even when they are given the opportunity to speak and convey their greetings to their kinsmen. Would you like to introduce yourself?

[Salih] Shafiq Salih, Palestinian resident of Lebanon. I am a school teacher.

[Ganor] How are the conditions in the detention camp?

[Salih] Regardless of what one may say about the conditions, it is still a detention camp. We have been through very difficult circumstances. The situation was very bad after the exchange of prisoners with the Ansar camp detainees. We hope we will be with our people soon.

[Ganor] Under what condition?

[Salih] Of course, on the basis of an exchange of prisoners between the PLO and Israel, or to be more precise, with the exchange of the Israeli prisoners who are detained by our leader Ahmad Jibril.

[Ganor] This is the daily visit by the prison doctor. Detainees who require special medical treatment are admitted into civilian hospitals.

Murad Bushnaq, the 25-year old newphew of Ahmad Jibril, was captured with one of his companions last year. Bushnaq was aware of the plan to kidnap the eight Israeli soldiers in Lebanon 2 years ago. He is one of the main detainees.

[Bushnaq] This is like any other detention camp in the world. Of course, they are our enemies. They treat us like enemies. But we are facing several acts of humiliation, not just every day, but also every hour. For instance, we cannot leave the cell without keeping our hands on our heads. This, of course, is unacceptable. But we are forced to do it. We have made several complaints to the Red Cross concerning food. We are demanding a change of food.

[Ganor] What type of food are you given?

[Bushnaq] Always chicken, potatoes, and green beans.

[Ganor] Are you concerned about the subject of your release?

[Bushnaq] We are concerned, of course, but it is up to our leadership. We have full confidence in our leadership. We all dream of returning to our homes. But the matter is not in our hands. As I told you, we have full confidence in our leadership.

[Ganor] What was the reaction here after the release of the Ansar camp detainees?

[Bushnaq] Some of the men here had brothers in Ansar who were released and sent home. But as I told you, this subject is not in our hands. It is a political issue subject to negotiations. Every organization has certain demands. The demands will determine the exchange. We are not the ones who will determine the exchange.

[Ganor] But you are the persons directly concerned. Can you make demands or suggestions?

[Bushnaq] As I told you, this is not our concern. Our leadership is certainly aware of our desire to see our children, wives, and brothers.

[Ganor] I saw you being checked by the doctor a while ago.

[Unidentified detainee] Yes.

[Ganor] What do you think of the medical treatment?

[Unidentified detainee] It is good. The doctor visits us twice a week. The nurse visits us two or three times a day.

[Ganor] Are you married?

[Unidentified detainee] Yes.

[Ganor] Children?

[Unidentified detainee] Three.

[Ganor] Would you like to send your greetings?

[Hasib 'Ali] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I am Hasib 'Ali from Al-Qir'awn, western Al-Biqa', Lebanon. I send my greetings to my father, mother, dear brothers, and beloved wife and children. I tell them that hopefully we will meet soon.

[Ganor] And you?

[Ar-Rimawi] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I am Fadh Muhammad 'Uthman al-Rimawi from Ramallah. I send my greetings to my family in Ramallah. I am well and in good health. I send my greetings to my wife and children in Sidon. My wish is that we will soon meet, God willing. [end videorecording]

LIBYA

Official in France for Talks on Chad

LD141047 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0904 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Rabat, 14 Sep (KUNA) — A senior Libyan official is holding contacts with the French Government in Paris in a quest for a settlement that will satisfy both sides concerning the conflict in Chad. KUNA has learned that Mr Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Dam, a relative of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and charged with handling difficult issues, is currently holding talks in the French capital, described by diplomatic sources as extremely important. Mr Qadhdhaf al-Dam stopped over in Morocco over the last 2 days before flying on to Paris.

According to the same source who has asked not to be identified, Morocco is playing a conciliatory role between Libya and France so as to reach a solution regarding the Chad conflict. It seems that Mr Qadhdhaf al-Dam's stopover in the French capital is closely linked to an important Moroccan role to reach, as soon as possible, a Libyan-French agreement contributing to the withdrawal of the two countries' forces from Chad following agreement on a third personality to take up leadership in Chad in lieu of Goukouni Oueddei and Hissein Habre.

It has been learned that Mr Qadhdhaf al-Dam will return to Morocco at the end of this week to brief the Moroccan officials on the results of his talks in France.

Withdrawal Agreement Reached

LD171033 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, 17 Sep (JANA) — French Minister for External Relations Claude Cheysson visited the Jamahiriyah 15-16 September. The following statement was issued today in Tripoli and in Paris:

French Minister for External Relations Claude Cheysson visited Tripoli at the invitation of Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee of the Popular Bureau for Foreign Liaison. He was received by brother leader of the revolution Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the French Government have affirmed their desire to develop their relations and cooperation and to end all obstacles which prevent this. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and France have decided to begin comprehensive and simultaneous withdrawal of the French Armed Forces and the Libyan elements of support for the National Unity Government and also all weapons and equipment they have in Chad, at the earliest possible time. The withdrawal will begin 25 September, 1984.

Jallud Meets With Burkina Faso Counterpart

LD141111 Tripoli JANA in English 0950 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Dhu al-Hijjah 19, Sept 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud received yesterday, at his residence in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, Major Lingani, minister of defence of the Republic of Burkina Faso.

Jallud Returns From Ethiopia, Syria

LD160110 Tripoli JANA in English 1820 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhu al-Hijjah 20, September 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud has ended his visit to Socialist Ethiopia and the Syrian Arab Republic. He returned to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah this evening. During his visit to Ethiopia, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud attended celebrations commemorating the 10th anniversary of the toppling of Emperor Haile Selassie and met with Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. During his visit to Syria Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Turkish Labor Minister Kalemi Departs

LD162255 Tripoli JANA in English 1807 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhu al-Hijjah 21, September 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr Mustafa Kalemi, the Turkish minister of labour and social security, left Tripoli this afternoon ending a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah which lasted several days.

MAURITANIA

President on Nouakchott Summit, Oujda Treaty

LD141938 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The tripartite summit of Algeria, Mali and Mauritania is expected to take place tomorrow in Nouakchott. This summit is described as an informal meeting and occurs — as we have already stressed — a few weeks after the signing of the Moroccan-Libyan treaty. Our special correspondent in Nouakchott, Alain Grimber, was received yesterday afternoon by the Mauritanian head of state, Colonel Khouna Ould Haydala and from this interview, according to correspondent Carmen Bader, important clarifications have emerged; on the one hand on the Nouakchott meeting and on the other hand on the frame of mind of Mauritanian leaders after the signing of the Oujda treaty:

[Bader] Let us say briefly that the Mauritania's number one man remains very cautious about the ins and outs of tomorrow's meeting. Let us just recall — before listening to the head of state's explanations — that, officially, this summit is to center around cooperation issues among the three countries. Algeria's cherished idea on the need to develop South-South cooperation is recognized, but listen carefully to President Ould Haydala who shows that other issues might be discussed.

[Begin recording] [Haydala] This summit was preplanned and we are not meeting because of any special circumstances. There certainly are events happening in the area. We will talk about them but we will not focus our attention especially on the issues facing the Maghreb.

[Grimber] Mr President, this morning I heard international radio and other comments on the eve of this summit about the possibility of Mali adhering to the fraternity and concord agreement which links Algeria, Mauritania and Tunisia on the one hand, and other comments about the possibility of Tunisia participating. Was this ever planned?

[Haydala] These are only (?speculations), anyway to my knowledge Mali has not put forward its candidacy for this fraternity and concord treaty which, as you know, was reserved for the Maghreb and Maghreb only. As for the Tunisians I am not aware of any candidacy on their part to participate in the summit. [end recording]

[Bader] If Mauritania always approaches with diplomacy its relations with the Moroccan regime, this is because the latter regularly mentions the possibility of a right to pursuit on Mauritanian territory. Once again, Colonel Ould Haydala wants to put things straight. Ever since the signing of the peace treaty in 1979 with the Polisario Front, his country remains totally neutral in the conflict.

[Begin recording][Haydala] Our neutrality is very clear. We have recognized the SDAR but we also recognize Morocco [words indistinct]. Our neutrality is very clear and it has been made very clear to all parties. Our neutrality is an effective neutrality, that is, we will help no country militarily against any of the parties [words indistinct]. We will not allow any country to use our territory against others; this is very clear. We are neutral but, as to the Saharan problem we have a stand [word indistinct]. We have opted for the self-determination of the Saharan people and will continue to do so. [end recording]

[Bader] Consequently, the Nouakchott regime is calm about the possibility of a Moroccan intervention in the north of the country.

[Begin recording] [Haydala] I do not think the Moroccans will use their right to pursuit in our country because they will not find Saharans there; at least to our knowledge, Saharan fighters do not pass through our territory and will never do so.

[Grimber] Despite the signing of an agreement with the Polisario Front in 1979, and despite the recognition of the SDAR (?by) Mauritania more recently; your country is making an important war effort which is very expensive. Has Mauritania any reasons to feel concerned about the Saharan fighters?

[Haydala] As you know this [word indistinct] is just by our border. At any time, we could be affected by this war. On the other hand, we do not want our country to become a battlefield between the Moroccans and the Saharans. This is why we engage in the war effort and despite the urgent need to put our efforts elsewhere we shall continue as long as this war lasts. [end recording]

[Bader] After the signing of the famous Oujda treaty between Libya and Morocco the Mauritanian President spoke in a previous interview about the danger of balkanization of the Maghreb. Now the Mauritanian President goes further in his analysis for Alain Grimber.

[Begin recording] [Haydala] What is quite clear about the construction of the Maghreb is that the main problem is the Saharan issue. Unfortunately, I fear that this Moroccan-Libyan treaty may bring us further from a solution to the problem and consequently the construction of the Maghreb. [end recording]

Algerian, Mali Presidents Arrive for Summit

LD152233 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Since this afternoon our country has been hosting two dear friends of our people and their national leadership — President Chadli Bendjedid, President of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, and Moussa Traore, President of the Republic of Mali, who came in response to an invitation from the head of state to pay a working and friendly visit to our country for several days. The two presidents arrived at Nouakchott Airport at 1630 today and were welcomed by President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala.

Chadli, Traore Remarks Cited

LD161134 Algiers APS in English 1010 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Nouakchott, 16 Sep 84 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid had a tete a tete talk yesterday afternoon with President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala of Mauritania, soon after his arrival in Nouakchott. The Algerian president is to participate [in] the periodic meeting to the Algeri-Mauritano-Malian summit due to start today. President Moussa Traore of Mali also arrived in the Mauritanian capital.

President Chadli Bendjedid expressed to the press, upon arrival, his satisfaction to meet with [the] Mauritanian and Malian presidents, saying, "We are meeting in this brother country in the frame of traditions established for years in order to exchange views and [word indistinct] relations between our countries in all fields." Evoking bilateral relations, he said they are "very good" and are increasingly reinforced in the interest of our peoples and peoples of the region and for the benefit of the whole [of] Africa. This springs from our conviction in South-South cooperation," he underlined.

"We are going to exchange views and opinions on questions concerning the region, mainly the decolonization of Namibia, [the] Western Sahara and Chad problems" concerning the OAU summit, President Chadli stated. "The summit will be held at the fixed date and in good conditions, for we are convinced, as Africans and leaders, that we are fulfilling our duty to strengthen the OAU in its proper legal and authentic frame. This frame," he precised, "will enable us, as Africans responsible to examine questions that concern us, and express our concerns over all what deals with the destiny of our African Continent." Before arriving in Nouakchott, President Chadli made a stopover in Bamako, during which he also said to the press, "It is possible to find solution in the framework of OAU, to all problems that Africa is faced with."

On another hand, President Moussa Traore of Mali evoked before the press, upon his arrival in Nouakchott, the situation of cooperation between the three countries. "What we want," he said, "is to raise cooperation between our three countries at the level of the political friendship that link the three heads of state." He underlined, "It is difficult to perform in a world of crisis, that's why [word indistinct] we meet today in Nouakchott to examine matters of common interest."

Summit Talks Reported

LD162302 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The work of the tripartite meeting started this morning among Presidents Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, Chadli Bendjedid and General Moussa Traore. The work of the meeting ended this evening with a working session held by the accompanying delegations of the three countries. More details from colleague Bouissa who followed the work of the meeting:

The work of the tripartite summit started this morning with a closed working session by the three presidents. This working session continued for 3 hours, then the foreign ministers of the three countries joined it, and the session continued till 2:30 pm.

While the working session of the three presidents was surrounded by absolute secrecy, it is certain that the issues which were discussed during this meeting were very important. The importance of the issues could be inferred from the press conference which was held by the president of Mali, General Moussa Traore. In this press conference, General Traore talked about the subjects which were discussed today at noon.

He said that the three countries are committed to unifying their stands to face up to the current challenges which are represented by the severe drought. He also confirmed that the discussions included the issues of the Western Sahara, Chad and South Africa. He said that this meeting comes within the regular meetings between the three countries for consolidating the unity of the African ranks. We will give you more details about this press conference later on.

Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, commander of the Military Committe for National Salvation and head of the state, has started courtesy visits to the president of Mali, General Moussa Traore, and Algerian president, Chadli Bendjedid. During these courtesy visits he was accompanied by Colonel Abdoulaye Yall, the minister of interior.

On the other hand, we point out that this evening the three delegations held a working session in the presidential palace, and it is still continuing. The opening of this working session was presided over by the foreign ministers of the three countries.

Thanks to colleague Bouissa. It is decided that the two presidents, Chadli Bendjedid and Moussa Traore will leave the capital tomorrow morning for their countries.

MOROCCO

Voting Begins in Postponed General Elections

LD141309 Rabat MAP in English 1216 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Rabat Sept 14 (MAP) — Around [7.5 million] Moroccans have gone to the polls early this morning to elect their representatives at the six-year term parliament. 1,366 candidates representing twelve political parties out of which three new ones are to canvass for the 204 seats i.e., two-thirds of the 306 seat house of representatives, the remaining third representing local communities and professional chambers is elected by indirect suffrage.

Initially scheduled for June 1983, these general elections had to be postponed in view of the self-determination referendum in the former Spanish Sahara called for by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and whose date was set for December 1983.

The former House of Representatives was composed of 267 seats. For the first time, five seats will be held by representatives of Moroccan nationals living abroad — two representatives in France, one in the Benelux, one in Arab countries, and the fifth in the rest of the world. During these elections, the inhabitants of the Moroccan Sahara will have to elect five representatives instead of three in the former house. By their participation, the inhabitants of the Sahara give once again the proof of their Morocannity and reaffirm solemnly that Morocco is united and constitutes a single entity from Tangiers to Lagouira.

The twelve political parties, are the Istiqlal Party (conservative), the Popular Movement (rural milieu), the Socialist Union of Popular Forces (USFP-Socialist), the Party for Progress and Socialism (communist), the Organization for a Democratic and Popular Action (Leftist), the Constitutional Union (center-democrat), the National Rally of Independents (RNI-Social Democrat), the National Democrat Party (center-Democrat), the Popular, Democratic, and Constitutional Movement (conservative), the Democratic Party for Independence (Democrat), the Action Party (conservative), and the Party of the Social Center (rightist).

During the electoral campaign, the leaders of nine political parties (having presented a certain number of candidates) were offered the opportunity to explain their political programs on TV and radio. The first session of the new Chamber of Representatives will take place on Friday, October 12, and will be chaired by King Hassan II of Morocco in conformity with Article 33 of the Constitution.

Preliminary Election Results Announced

LD142329 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The legislative elections of two-thirds of the members of the House of Representatives have ended. The Ministry of Interior is announcing the preliminary results of the elections. We shall now connect you with the radio team at the Interior Ministry:

[Unidentified correspondent] We have just learned that four leaders of political parties which participated in the general elections in the Kingdom's regions today have won in their areas. They are Ahmed Osman, leader of the National Assembly of Independents [RNI] who won the Oujda seat; Abderrahim Bouabid, first secretary of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces [USFP] who won the Mohammadia seat; Ali Yata, first secretary of the Party of Progress and Socialism [PPS] who won the Casablanca seat; and M'Hamed Boucetta, secretary general of the Independence Party who won the (?Marrakech) seat. Indeed, a few minutes ago, the preliminary results began to appear from elections held throughout the Kingdom in an atmosphere of control and awareness.

In addition to the four political party leaders, six candidates have won: two representing the UNFP — (Mohamed Sibati) and (Mohamed Ribah) in Fes; (Abdelaziz Abba) of the Independence Party in [word indistinct] region; (Isma'il Alaoui) of the PPS in [word indistinct]; (Khatri Ould Sidi Sa'id Jumani) of the RNI and (Belkarim) of the Constitutional Movement in [word indistinct]. The first results were announced here at the Ministry of Interior at 2104 which was [words indistinct]. We shall keep in touch with you to present the rest of the results as soon as they are announced by the Interior Ministry.

Paris Reports Istiqlal Losing

LD151147 Paris Domestic Service in French 1105 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Results of yesterday's legislative elections in Morocco to renew two-thirds of parliament are beginning to reach us. Ralph Pinto [France Inter Journalist] reports a spectacular increase for the Socialist Union of Popular Forces. The great loser seems to be Istiqlal, that is, the Nationalist Party.

[Pinto] Well, this is the victory of the left and the center left. The Constitutional Union, the party of former Prime Minister Maati Bouabib — a party hastily created nearly 1 year ago — comes out the winner of the elections, as you said. The victory is shared with a more left-wing party, the Socialust Union of Popular Forces, the party of the other Bouabid — Abderrahim Bouabid — one will have to be careful about not mixing them. Bouabid was still in prison a year ago for having questioned the king's policy on the Saharan issue. The great loser is the right, that is, the independence movement, Istiqlal, the movement of Allal Fassi. A center left chamber is expected.

Municipal Election Results Announced

LD151259 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Interior Minister Mr Driss Basri today announced the final results of the legislative elections that took place yesterday in the various districts and provinces of the Kingdom. The results presented by Mr Driss Basri at his press conference today concern the 199 seats in the national territory, for which there were elections and to which the five seats reserved for our compatriots abroad will be added, thus completing the two-thirds proportion of the members of the House of Representative who are directly elected. Here are the final results announced by the minister: [Begin recording]

Number of voters: 4,996,643
Percentage of participation: 67.43 percent
Valid votes: 4,443,004

Distribution of seats among the political bodies:

Constitutional Union: 55 seats;
National Grouping of Independents: 38 seats;
Socialist Union of Popular Forces: 34 seats;
Popular Movement: 31 seats;
Istiqlal Party: 23 seats;
National Democratic Party: 15 seats;
Party of Progress and Socialism: 2 seats;
Organization for Democratic and Popular action: 1 seat [end recording]

ANSA: Popular Forces Leader On Libyan Treaty

AU151959 Rome ANSA in English 1949 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text](ANSA) Rome September 15 — In an interview to Rome's *IL MESSAGGERO* today Abderrahim Bouabid, leader of the Socialist Union of Moroccan Popular Forces, defended the treaty of union between Morocco and Libya. He said the accord was something new under the sun, not a federation nor a unification. Instead, the treaty spelled the first step towards unification of the Maghreb, he said.

The real problem in this context, the Moroccan political leader continued, is Algeria, which wants such a unification to come about under its leadership. However, if Rabat "is willing to accept our dialogue", he continued, "Mauritania will follow".

As to the Tunisian Government, it is favorable to the treaty although it does not want to say so publicly, Bouabid declared. "Bourguiba knows we are a moderating element", he added. In the Moroccan's view the United States and Europe too should be in favor of the stabilization of Northern Africa.

Bouabid said he was convinced that the accord with Libya would open the road to a political solution for the Sahara. Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has dealt with a state, Morocco, whose national territory encompasses the Western Sahara as well, he said. As is known, Libya is the key supplier of arms for the Polisario Liberation Front fighting for Saharan independence.

"Now on a military level, we control the part of the Sahara that counts", he said. The wall that surrounds it is mobile and will advance towards the Algerian border, he continued. The Moroccan said that he did not believe there would be any surprises at a military level, unless Algeria sought to escalate the situation, for example, by giving sophisticated weapons to Saharan guerrillas. This was the real danger today, he said. That is, that there was an uncontrolled escalation of the conflict. "The treaty with Libya can help us avoid such a risk", he added.

Bouabid said he was in favor of a debate on the Saharan problem within the Arab League rather than within the Organization of

African Unity. The OAU is completely paralyzed, he said. It would be much better for the Arab states to deal with the problem. This would make it easier to accept the proposal put forward by Morocco's King Hasan II — a referendum among the Saharan peoples, he told the interviewer.

Minister Holds Talks With Senegal President

LD141437 Rabat MAP in English 1209 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Dakar, Sep 14 (MAP) — "The Arabo-African union treaty signed between Morocco and Libya and unanimously approved by the Moroccan and Libyan peoples, is a positive agreement which aims at unifying the efforts of the Arab and African countries for the defense of peace, the harmonization of their policies and for the organization of their defense against Zionism, colonialism and imperialism", declared Thursday in Dakar Mr Abdelouahed Radi, Moroccan minister in charge of cooperation at the end of the meeting he had with Senegalese President, Abdou Diouf.

Mr Radi indicated that he explained to the Senegalese president the content and the aims of the Arabo-African union treaty, which he said "is directed against no one", the union treaty is open to all and constitutes a supplementary contribution to materialize the Africans and Arabs' ideals and aspirations to unity, he went on.

After he indicated that there is no contradiction between the Arabo-African unity treaty and the charters of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Arab League Mr Radi specified that, "Morocco, to show her good will, approved the agreement signed between Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania and sees that this agreement is valid and positive, and that all this will end in achieving the unity of the Maghreb, Africa and the Arab world". On the other hand, Mr Radi expressed satisfaction at the meeting he had had with President Abdou Diouf, underlining the good and friendly relations existing between the Moroccan and the Senegalese heads of state.

To a question relating to the organization of a referendum in the Sahara, the Moroccan minister in charge of cooperation indicated that Morocco will spare no effort and has already exerted efforts to safeguard the unity of Africa. "Morocco is ready to organize the referendum at any moment", he stressed.

Mr Radi left Dakar Thursday, last leg of a tour that has also led him to Gabon, Cameroon, and Congo where he conveyed personal messages from King Hassan II to the leaders of these countries.

SUDAN

Islamic Leaders Praise Red Sea Initiative

JN151514 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Sep (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib this morning. Following the meeting, Al-Tayyib said that he briefed the president on the results of his meetings with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, the Saudi crown prince, Djibouti President Hassan Gouled, Chadian President Hissein Habre, the Iraqi vice president, and the Pakistani vice president during his performance of pilgrimage rites. He said that they asked him to convey their greetings to the Sudanese president, people, and Government and their wishes for Sudan's prosperity under Islamic law.

Al-Tayyib emphasized that all those with whom he met praised Sudan's initiative to hold a ministerial conference of the Red Sea littoral countries to discuss means of safeguarding it, keeping it far from international struggle, and maintaining it as a peaceful and secure waterway.

Reopening of YAR, Somalia Embassies Announced

JN141459 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Sep (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has decided to reopen the Sudanese embassies in the YAR and Somalia. The two ambassadors to these countries will be nominated within the next few days. Sudan has reopened some embassies which were closed for financial reasons. The embassies which were reopened are in Netherlands, Romania, Iraq, and Qatar. The Foreign Ministry has announced that Sudan's embassies which were closed will be opened gradually.

Al-Tayyib on Outlaw Raid, Oil Supplies

JN151454 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Sep (SUNA) — Retired Staff Major General 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib, the vice president, made a statement to the press following his meeting with President Numayri this morning. He said that Bentiu was recently subjected to an offensive by outlaws who attacked Bentiu's market place, demonstrating their dire need for supplies. He noted that the People's Armed Forces confronted the outlaws, killed some of them, and pursued those who fled the scene. He added that these forces carried out a successful combing operation in the area. He affirmed that the People's Army troops there enjoying very high morale. He reiterated that security prevails at all southern regions and throughout Sudan.

Al-Tayyib said a number of ships carrying oil products will arrive in Port Sudan next week. He added that with their arrival Sudan will have completed its reserves of these commodities. This will also help in solving the current shortage crisis, as the scheduled rates of distribution to the citizens will resume. He said that the arrival of these oil products will help this season's harvest. He affirmed that the current available quantities of oil products can meet the country's demand until 10 October 1984.

WESTERN SAHARA

Abdelaziz Raps Moroccan Attempts to Deceive OAU

LD160355 Algiers APS in English 1456 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Liberated Zones, 15 Sep 84 (APS) — Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, denounced yesterday in a statement [the] attempt of the Moroccan king to deceive the OAU of the Western Saharan matter. This is a colonialist act, that join racism and Zionism since it calls for the dividing of the continent into two blocks black and white, Mr Abdelaziz said.

He reaffirmed the Western Sahara matter was an African question and the OAU has already paved the way by adopting a peace plan during its 19th summit. The Saharan Republic said the statement warns the African leaders against the colonialist racist theses [word indistinct] by the Moroccan king.

ETHIOPIA

WPE Constituent Congress Winds Up Activities

WPE Congress Deliberations Reported

EA162308 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1245 GMT 10 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Our listeners, this voice is coming to you from the Worker's Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Congress Hall where the WPE congress is carrying out its fifth and final day's deliberations. As I have told you earlier, participants of the congress and foreign guests have resumed their seats. Comrade Mengistu and members of the Presidium are expected in the hall.

The results of the elections held to choose WPE Central Committee members and alternate members have been presented to the closed session of the formation congress; 136 Central Committee members; 64 alternate members; and 28 Audit Commission members were elected.

The congress approved the election results of full and alternate members of the Central Committee and members of the Audit Commission after Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, chairman of the Election Commission presented the result of the elections to the congress. After presenting the list of names of members of the leadership committee of the WPE Central Committee, Comrade Berhanu Bayeh handed over the document of the election results to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam. It is recalled that the Election Commission which was formed yesterday by the WPE founding congress, in line with the WPE election rules, elected its own chairman and secretary and continued its deliberations.

When the WPE Central Committee held its first meeting this morning it carried out the election of the WPE secretary general, Politburo members and alternate members. In addition to this it examined various documents that the WPE Central Committee will use in the future and approved them. Following this, the WPE Central Committee Politburo members held their first meeting and after electing secretaries of the Central Committee, Control Commission members of the Central Committee, presented the list of members to the Central Committee meeting and it was approved. In addition to this the Audit Commission of the WPE held its meeting and elected its leadership. And now there are only a few minutes before the start of the last session of the congress. Our listeners we invite you to follow the last day's congress proceedings from the WPE founding congress hall.

WPE Congress Resolutions Reported

EA162142 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1453 GMT 10 Sep 84

[Text] The WPE congress, after deeply reflecting on and assessing the central report of the secretary general of the Central Committee of the WPE, PMAC chairman and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, and after assessing the 10 year development plan, has passed the following resolutions:

1. The comprehensive central report presented by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, PMAC chairman and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, to the WPE founding congress has clearly shown that we are in a position to lay the strong foundations for socialism after accomplishing the national democratic revolution. Based on Marxist-Leninist theory, it analysed and clearly showed the present situation of our country in line with the international situation. COPWE has completely fulfilled its responsibilities and has (?matured) while the WPE is existing and is the vanguard of our society. After understanding the report with sufficient clarifications, the congress has fully accepted it. In addition it has unanimously decided that the document should be the day to day directive for all members and bodies and that the Central Committee should follow up its implementation in the government and public organizations and draw up necessary laws when necessary and execute them.

2. By assessing the long history or our people, by reviewing the situations for the outbreak of the revolution, by assessing the national and international situations during March 1974 the WPE draft program has tangibly shown that the outbreak of the revolution was inevitable. It has further shown that the revolution indicates the activities that should be carried out for the realization of the objectives in all fields and the activities to be carried out for its implementation. And that the plans laid down in the building of the new political system that is based on the equality of the working people and the rights of the nationalities and the structuring of the plan for the formation of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia are right.

3. The WPE draft statute is able to respect the ideological and organizational unity of members, is based on the principles of democratic centralism and has the aim of developing the internal life of the party. By understanding that it is the only way and is a necessity for the assurance of the respect for discipline by the members and for the implementation of the party program and directives, the congress approved and adopted and has issued directives to all members and bodies to implement it properly. [sentence as heard] [applause]

4. One of the basic aspects of socialism is the coordinated 10 year development plan to develop our country along the right path. The plan is able to expand socialist production relations and enhance the development of the forces of production, in line with the objective reality of our country's collective economic development. It shows the necessary attention that should be given to the various sectors of economy and their order of preference. It has also laid down the appropriate means of struggle to take care of and develop our diminished natural wealth — farming. It also points the right policy direction in line with foreign economic relations. It has also thoroughly recalled the way to develop our economic construction in a better way and has pointed out the decisive role scientific economic administration and public control have for the achievement of the necessary results. It also points out the need for solving the critical problems in our national economy such as food shortages, the provision of basic industrial and consumer commodities and the methods of step by

step implementation of the strategic plans and acts as a reminder to the government to execute the short and intermediate plans. The congress has thus unanimously accepted the development plan. [applause]

The implementation or not of the basic documents adopted by the WPE congress has a decisive role in the development of the revolution. Therefore the lining up of the party members and bodies and the whole of the working masses for practical action is very important. In this regard, the following up of the directives by our enthusiastic leader Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam who has proved himself a revolutionary and by his standing among the people in times of peace and hardship in the implementation of the party objectives is decisive for our development strides. [applause] In general, the election of Comrade Mengistu as the secretary general of the WPE Central Committee assures the continuation of his leadership which is the hope of the working people. We believe that members and alternate members of the Central Committee, members of the Central Audit Commission who were elected by the congress for their ability and revolutionary contributions and the Politburo members elected by the Central Committee, secretaries of the Central Committee and Control Committee members, will fulfill their responsibilities by learning from the proletarian discipline and prestigious leadership methods of our revolutionary leader. [applause]

Our strong ambition of building a new and prosperous society which is free from exploitation can be achieved through hard work in a peaceful situation. To repulse any enemy aggression and properly defend our security and ensure our ability to defend our security, and to realize the necessary results in the ideological, political, economic and other sectors of social life, let us strengthen our arms in unity and align our objectives and present unity and march forward.

Addis Ababa, 10 September 1984

Thank you. [applause]

SWAPO's Nujoma Addresses Congress

EA141343 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 12 Sep 84

[Speech by SWAPO President Sam Nujoma at the WPE Constituent Congress on 8 September in Addis Ababa]

[Text] [Begin Nujoma recording] In the name of the Central Committee of SWAPO, of the heroic embattled Namibian people and on my own behalf, I have a (?particular) honor and pleasant duty to address and to convey fraternal salutations to this eminent and [word indistinct] on the happy occasion of the foundation of the WPE party. [applause] In particular, our most sincere thanks and appreciation goes to COPWE, its mass organizations, and all Ethiopian patriots who have labored tirelessly to make the convocation of this congress a complete success and for the kind invitation extended to SWAPO to participate. [applause]

Thank you very much, dear friends. This is a (?tremendous) encouragement for us who are still in the field of the struggle against the forces of colonialism and imperialism and racism. [prolonged applause] It is a fact that over centuries the Ethiopian masses waged a bitter struggle against imperialism, racism, in criminal collaboration with local officials, the nationalists and [words indistinct] this [word indistinct] African state as its [words indistinct] (?rose up) and that is why we are here. [applause] It is against this background that the act of the founding of the Marxist-Leninist Party, a party of the (?new type) in Ethiopia, must be seen as a historic achievement for Africa and the world.

Since then and following after that, and particularly now, it is a [words indistinct] of the dark past into a new revolutionary era of hope. [end recording]

[Announcer] Comrade Nujoma also expressed SWAPO's conviction that the founding of the WPE would strengthen the Ethiopian revolution as well as world peace and security.

[Begin Nujoma recording] This unfolding of the party of a (?new type) which we are honored to witness, no doubt, will (?pulsatingly) consolidate numerous gains which the Ethiopian revolution has already recorded in many fields of human endeavors, thereby providing new impetus to the strengthening of your political and economic independence. In accordance with your stated and cherished policy of cooperation with all states that desire peace, and solidarity with the national liberation movements, we are happy to note that the founding of a Marxist-Leninist Party will enable Ethiopia to make a greater contribution to the promotion and the strengthening of world peace and security while opposing oppression and exploitation wherever they exist. [end recording]

[Announcer] Stating that oppression and exploitation breed revolutions, the SWAPO president said just as the Ethiopian masses [words indistinct] so will SWAPO defeat the racist imperialists in Namibia.

[Begin Nujoma recording] Neither the success of the Ethiopian struggle, nor of any other people anywhere in the world, can be mystified as a [word indistinct], a miracle, or a mere [word indistinct]. For in accordance with the laws of social development, oppression and exploitation create revolution that destroys them without exceptions. And certainly the revolution that erupted in this country in September of 1974 (?buried) the feudal bourgeoise system and liberated the Ethiopian broad masses and threw imperialism in a helpless state of (?shame) and [word indistinct].

Similar fates, (?I submit), mercilessly await all those who thrive by employing ruthless methods of repression, and exploitation of the masses of the people. In Namibia, the combatants, men and women of the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia, the military wing of SWAPO, shall equally defeat the racist imperialists in Namibia. [applause]

In Southern Africa, notably in my country Namibia, in Central America, and the Middle East there are raging flames of war for national and social liberation [words indistinct] even when they resort to the use of weapons of mass destruction, political tricks, or division of our people on a national or tribal basis in an effort to delay the day of their doom. Your victory, comrades, and your other revolutionary achievements over the past 10 years serve to reassure our embattled people that their just struggle, too, will be (?tireless) and successful. [applause]

In Southern Africa imperialism has, however, been forced to adopt a new campaign strategy which is manifested in frantic maneuvers to dilute the ideological (?surface) of the liberation movements in exchange for (?formal) neocolonialism [word indistinct]. Although SWAPO (?stands waiting) to reach a genuinely negotiated settlement in Namibia, which will prevail and protect the interests of the Namibian people (?threatened by) South Africa, we should never capitulate nor accept to be draw into some agreement outside UN Security Council Resolution 435. That way will negate the truth of the sacrifices that our people have made over decades. [applause]

The struggle determines, it follows therefore that in our context and (?circumstances) our national liberation and independence, and given the fact that our entire continent is still gripped in a destined struggle for economic and political emancipation, this event of great dimension evokes our deep emotion and hence our unqualified support and hearty congratulations. [end recording]

[Announcer] After pointing out that imperialism, in collusion with racist South Africa, has stepped up destabilization and pressure on the Frontline States, Comrade Nujoma called on all progressive forces to unite in order to counter and frustrate these plots.

[Begin Nujoma recording] [Words indistinct] to note is that the founding of a Marxist-Leninist party of the WPE is taking place at a time when imperialism, especially American imperialism, has stepped up its overt and covert schemes in collusion with the South African racist regime to destabilize by the [word indistinct] the Frontline States into abandoning their original principles to undermine African leadership and solidarity and to flame the [word indistinct] against the forces for the liberation of Namibia and South Africa.

In order to counter and frustrate these imperialist plots the unity of all progressive forces is of vital necessity [words indistinct] to liberate our [word indistinct] and support of the Ethiopian revolution as well as the rest of the liberation (?armies). As oppressed persons, we would like to take this opportunity to express our [word indistinct] desire to further strengthen our fraternal links with all peace-loving forces the world over, as represented here, first and foremost with the Frontline States, OAU, nonaligned countries, the great socialist community of [word indistinct] especially the Soviet Union. [applause]

[Words indistinct] of the liberation movement, we extend our revolutionary salutations to the fighting people of South Africa under the leadership of ANC, of Western Sahara under Polisario Front, of Palestine under PLO, of El Salvador, Chile, and all others battling for liberation. [applause]

We extend our solidarity to the Nicaraguan, Grenadian, Cuban, and other Central American and Caribbean people who are being threatened by the U.S. Reagan imperialism. [end recording]

[Announcer] In conclusion, the Namibian revolutionary leader thanked Socialist Ethiopia for the all-round support it has rendered to SWAPO and wished the fraternal Ethiopian people further success in their noble efforts to build true socialism on African soil.

[Begin Nujoma recording] On behalf of the fighting Namibian people, allow me to salute and pay tribute to you, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, the government and the fraternal people of revolutionary Ethiopia for all that support rendered to SWAPO and to wish you greater and [word indistinct] success in building true socialism under your revolutionary leadership. [prolonged applause] Our people are completely convinced that the success of socialism is inevitable despite numerous obstacles placed on its way by imperialism and (?its weapons). [applause]

Chairman, Comrade Mengistu, allow me to thank you most sincerely for the very frank, proper, analytical, and educative central report which you have so ably presented the other day. I sincerely believe that the central report will serve as a (?guardian) to the guideline for the implementation of the master plan during the next 10 years. [applause]

Long live the WPE! Long live the Ethiopian revolution! Long live the PDRE! Long live respected Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam! Long live the friendship between the revolutionary Ethiopian people and the fighting Namibian people! A luta [the struggle] continues! [crowd chants: Continues]

Thank you very much, comrade chairman. [end recording]

Mengistu Holds Talks With Visiting Dignitaries

EA141334 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the WPE Central Committee, PMAC chairman and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, held talks today with Comrade Lazar, member of the SFRY Presidency; Pierre Nze, member of the Congo Workers Party Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs; and Brother 'Abd al-Salam Jallud of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

At the ceremonies held at the great palace our comrade revolutionary leader first held talks with Comrade Lazar, in which they discussed bilateral relations and pointed out that relations have been developed and strengthened since our revolution. He also discussed international issues and the Nonaligned Movement.

Our comrade revolutionary leader also held talks with Comrade Pierre Nze, Congolese minister of foreign affairs, and received the message sent by Comrade Denis Sassou, leader of the People's Republic of the Congo. The message was on the forthcoming 20th OAU summit to be held in November in Addis Ababa, and on the issues of Chad and the Western Sahara. After he received the message our comrade revolutionary leader, in his capacity as current chairman of the OAU, explained the steps that had been taken to alleviate the problems.

Brother 'Abd al-Salam Jallud said that the formation of the WPE is a great example not only to the Ethiopian people but also to all Africans.

He also received and held talks on bilateral relations with Comrade Miu Dobrescu, candidate member of the Romanian Communist Party Political Executive Committee.

East European Leaders Depart

EA141421 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] The party leaders and representatives of various countries who were present at the WPE formation congress and the 10th anniversary celebrations of the Ethiopian revolution have returned to their respective countries. Those who left today are Comrade Grigoriy Vasilievich Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee; Comrade Vasil Bilak, member of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee; Comrade Milko Balev, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee; and Comrade Czyrek, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Polish Workers Party Central Committee.

Romanov Departure Statement Reported

EA141624 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] Comrade Romanov has said that the establishment of the WPE and the ratification of a party program based on the principles of scientific socialism is an incomparable achievement for the Ethiopian revolution and the working people. Comrade Grigoiry Vasilievich Romanov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU said this in his statement before departing for Moscow today. Comrade Romanov said that the WPE formation congress had been highly admired by members of the delegation and added that the formation of the party and the ratification of the party program based on the principles of scientific socialism is an incomparable deed for the revolution and the country's workers.

Honecker Visits Cement Plant

EA141819 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of the German Socialist Unity Party and chairman of the GDR State Council, today visited the cement factory in Muger District in Shoa region, which is the first heavy industry in our country. During his visit, in which he was accompanied by Comrade Fikre Selassie Wogderess, Political Bureau member of the WPE and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Erich Honecker pointed out in his speech that favorable conditions are being created to accelerate Socialist Ethiopia's construction of numerous factories and many new residences through the cement being acquired from Muger. He expressed his happiness at being able to witness the base laid down by the working people of Ethiopia to build the country.

Comrade Honecker explained that the construction of the factory is testimony to the close friendship and cooperation existing between the three fraternal countries and added that the PDRY has not limited its participation to this factory alone but has also participated in building the factories at Kembolcha [in Wollo Region] and Bahr Dar [in Gojjam Region]

Comrade Honecker stated that the victories and experiences acquired by the two countries in joint ventures have contributed greatly to enhancing their relations based on trust and mutual interest.

Comrade Erich Honecker said that he had been able to see the heavy contribution made by the working people of Ethiopia in the struggle to be free from oppression and exploitation, disease, illiteracy, and famine and to establish a social system in which justice and well-being prevail.

He added that, to consolidate social development, it is necessary to have a body capable of giving the correct leadership, born and tested through struggle, and affirmed his heartfelt joy that the workers of Ethiopia have achieved this priceless party.

Comrade Honecker said that provocative imperialist forces have escalated the threat of nuclear war, which is capable of totally wiping out mankind, because they want military supremacy. He said that the USSR and other socialist countries oppose this and that the GDR will struggle with all her force to alleviate and eradicate the threat of war and the oppressive tension.

Honecker Ends Visit

EA141829 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0400 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of the German Socialist Unity Party and chairman of the GDR Council of State, yesterday afternoon left for home after attending Ethiopia's 10th revolutionary anniversary celebrations. He was seen off at Bole International Airport by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces. Comrade Fisseha Desta, Politburo member and secretary of the WPE Central Committee, WPE Central Committee Politburo members and secretaries, WPE Central Committee members, and Hans Jagenow, GDR ambassador to Ethiopia, were also present.

Before leaving Bole International Airport, Comrade Erich Honecker expressed admiration for the concrete achievements made by the people in political, economic, and social development since the eruption of the great Ethiopian revolution, adding that he had been able to see for himself how much this people loves the revolution and the victories won. Comrade Erich Honecker expressed his strong belief that the Ethiopian people will successfully implement the WPE program and the congress resolutions, adding that, with its organized defense force, nothing can prevent the country from defeating the imperialist and antirevolutionary forces.

Comrade Erich Honecker noted that, during his stay in Ethiopia, he held useful talks on important issues with Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, adding that there are a similar and common position on the issues that were raised.

KENYA

KANU Expels Njonjo, Other Former Ministers

EA141404 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] And now a news flash. The KANU National Governing Council has expelled three former Cabinet ministers and four former assistant ministers from the ruling party. The Council also expelled a former deputy speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Moses Kiprono arap Keino, and former parliamentary chief whip, Mr Said Hemeb Said, alongside the former MP for Butere, Mr Richard Litunya.

The members expelled from the party include a former minister for constitutional affairs, Charles Njonjo, whose conduct was under judicial enquiry recently; the former minister for culture and social services, Mr Stanley Oloitipitip, who is the current MP for Kajiado South, and former minister for lands and settlement, Mr G.G. Kariuki.

Others expelled include former assistant ministers Clement Lubembe, Zablon Olang, Jackson Kalweo, and Francis Lotodo, who is serving an 18-month jail sentence. Also expelled are Mr Samson Akasile, James Ibrahim (Lukoro), (Josiah Kemboi), Yusuf Lumunyani and Samuel Luboroni.

Moi: Only KANU Members Can Join Civil Service

EA151504 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi announced today that with effect from next year all civil servants must be registered KANU members and that nobody will be employed by the government unless he is a KANU member. He said the membership card will cost 5 ksh every year for everybody in the country and that the check-off system will be introduced to ensure that all civil servants paid it. The president was addressing a mammoth crowd during the fund raising meeting in aid of the diocese of Eldoret Catholic schools at Bishop Njenga Secondary School at (Chekalini) in Western Province.

On corruption and bribery, the president directed all senior government officers to reduce their frequency in bars where they could be vulnerable to bribery. He said the magistrates particularly could very easily succumb to temptations by people whose cases are pending in their courts.

SEYCHELLES

AFP: Development Minister Leaves for Japan Visit

AB160848 Paris AFP in English 0820 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Victoria, Sept 16 (AFP) — National Development Minister Jacques Hodoul left Seychelles last night for a week's working visit to Japan, where he is to meet officials in Tokyo for talks on bilateral cooperation. The trip is at the invitation of the Seychelles-Japan Association and Kawasaki City which is celebrating its 60th anniversary. Mr Hodoul is taking with him four giant land tortoises to be presented as a gift to the city's zoo.

Mr Hodoul is scheduled to meet Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and leaders of the Japanese Socialist Party and the Kawasaki City Employees Union. The talks will centre on cooperation in the fields of education, tourism, technology, agriculture and fishing, Mr Hodoul said yesterday. Janpan is one of Seychelles' major sources of electrical and electronics goods. Participation by the Japanese Government in projects in the Indian Ocean republic has so far been restricted to a water supply scheme and the equipping of the national television station.

SOMALIA

Foreign Ministry Spokesman on New Ethiopian Party

EA162152 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The [word indistinct] events which took place in Abyssinia last week — the formation of the so-called Workers Party and the 10th anniversary of the Dergue's seizure of power — are a bad omen for peace, stability, and security of the Horn of Africa region and its vicinity. This was declared by a spokesman of Somalia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs today. The spokesman said the formation of the so-called party would strengthen the naked attacks by the Abyssinian regime on the Somali Democratic Republic and would serve to perpetuate the misguided policy of the fascist Mengistu regime as well as its continued rule of the country which is being nurtured by Russia.

The spokesman went on to say that the formation of the so-called party would increase the exodus of refugees into neighboring countries as exemplified by the 49,730 refugees who recently joined those refugees who are already in Somalia. This event will also increase the Mengistu regimes disregard for the human rights of the people it colonizes such as those in Western Somalia, Eritrea, and Tigray.

The spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Somali Democratic Republic also said that the so-called Workers Party is in fact the brain-child of the big power which the regime (?serves as a puppet) and aims at suppressing the rights of the peoples living under Abyssinian colonialism. The problem is that the Horn of Africa is not [words indistinct] as is alleged by this and previous regimes but is a problem between the people colonized by the Abyssinian empire and the black Abyssinian colonialism because these peoples are fighting for their self-determination and their freedom as enshrined in the UN Charter, [words indistinct] and the fundamental principles of international law, the spokesman asserted.

He added that the Abyssinian black colonialism [words indistinct] while covering the ugly oppression to which it subjects the people it colonizes. It misleads the world by claiming that the Somali Democratic Republic is a nation that is out to achieve territorial expansion. The spokesman reiterated that the Somali Democratic Republic does not want any land from neighboring countries but that it fully supports the right of the people colonized by Abyssinia to their self determination through a referendum under the supervision of recognized international or African bodies. The spokesman said this was the only reasonable way with the least [word indistinct] to solve the continuous problem created by the Abyssinian colonialists.

The spokesman pointed out that it was odd [words indistinct] that member-states of the OAU were always condemning the racist white minority South African regime while they blinded themselves to the Abyssinian colonialism perpetrated by the minority Abyssinians who oppress the peoples of Eritrea, Western Somalia, Abo, and Tigray right in front of the OAU headquarters.

The spokesman stated that the Somali Democratic Republic once again called on the UN, international and regional organizations and on peaceloving nations to condemn Abyssinian colonialism and to find ways to force the regime to stop its wars against the peoples it colonizes.

Similarly the spokesman said the Somali Democratic Republic calls on the world to condemn the foreign powers supporting the Addis Ababa fascist regime and for the Abyssinian troops to withdraw immediately and without preconditions from Balambaleh and Goldogob areas in the Somali Democratic Republic which Abyssinian troops captured in July 1982.

'Large Demonstration' Held Against WPE, Mengistu

EA141539 Hargeisa Domestic Service in Somali
1530 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] A very large demonstration was held in Hargeisa yesterday afternoon by the general public of Western Somalia who are residing in the northwest region of the SDR. The demonstrators vehemently condemned and opposed the so-called election of the Workers Party of Abyssinia and the 10th anniversary of the so-called revolution of Mengistu's regime.

The demonstrators carried placards with slogans saying that the 10th anniversary of the so-called election of the Workers Party were nothing but wicked and treacherous measures against the liberation movement in Ethiopia and that the Western Somali people see this as nothing but a futile attempt by Mengistu and his henchmen to prolong their rule in Abyssinia. The people also shouted slogans against the Mengistu regime, which is known for its colonialist policy.

The demonstrators who passed through Hargeisa's main streets were later addressed by members of the youth organization of the Western Somali people, who spoke of the various tricks and tactics used by the Mengistu regime to massacre, oppress and loot the people of Western Somalia. The youth members said that 12 September was a dark day for the progressive forces of the world and that they would continue their struggle until final victory.

Former Ethiopian Naval Chief Condemns Revolution

EA141202 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
0430 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Twelve September, marking the 10th anniversary of Mengistu's revolution following the formation of a communist party in the country and putting the country under the control of a superpower was a sad day for Ethiopians. This is what the chairman of the Ethiopian People's Democratic Association, EPDA, Major General Tesaw Desta, told a press conference held yesterday at the Ministry of Information and National Guidance in Mogadishu and attended by reporters from some international news agencies and from the ministry.

The chairman added that in the past 10 years the people of Abyssinia were confused but now the political organizations and nationalities in Ethiopia can see through Mengistu's tricks. The chairman of EPDA pointed out that the organizations and movements fighting the Dergue regime are now taking new steps to thwart Mengistu's administration as well as the objectives of his party.

The formation of Mengistu's so-called Workers Party is a product of his warped thinking which is behind the enmity and fighting he is fostering in the Horn of Africa, particularly against Somalia and Sudan, and ultimately against other neighboring countries. Therefore, so long as Mengistu's regime remains in power, the security of the region will be in danger, Tasew Desta said.

The chairman also referred to the formation and aims of the EPDA, which he said, has now been in existence for 3 and 1/2 years and has offices in Africa, Asia and Europe. The aim of the EPDA is to get rid of the present regime in Addis Ababa. The chairman added that the EPDA, which enjoys the support and confidence of the majority of the Ethiopian people, has working relationships with other movements in the country, such as those in Eritrea, the EPU and many others. General Tasew Desta was formerly the commander of Ethiopia's Navy and later Ethiopia's ambassador to the YAR.

Mogadishu Reports Front's Battle Successes

EA151458 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] A statement released today by the office of the Western Somali Liberation Front, WSLF, in Mogadishu says that the gallant freedom fighters of the WSLF killed 94 soldiers and wounded many others in a bitter encounter between the freedom fighters and black colonialist soldiers of Abyssinia at (Yoaleh), in Awareh District between 9 and 11 September. The report adds that the black colonialist Abyssinian soldiers also lost 80 assorted light and heavy rifles. The black colonialist soldiers also lost a very large quantity of military hardware destroyed. The WSLF fighters suffered 22 martyrs and three freedom fighters wounded.

TANZANIA

ANSA: **Salim on Italian Third World Role**

AU151544 Rome ANSA in English 1532 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] (ANSA) Nairobi, September 15 — The influence Italy enjoys in the Third World and the role the nation can play as one of the major Western industrialized nations in shaping a new global economic order were discussed by Tanzanian Prime Minister Salim Ahmed Salim in an interview given to the Italian News agency ANSA. Against this backdrop, he continued, Italy must become more sensitive to Third World problems, the African economies and the development problems on the continent.

The prime minister said that the nation could adopt policies which reflect greater "understanding" at the international and bilateral levels and throw more weight behind demands, arising especially among the developing countries, for a new world economic order. Speaking more in general, Ahmed Salim lamented that many words have been spent on this "new international economic order" but conditions remain as they were five or six years ago.

The African head of government, in this connection, urged Italy to play "a more active role, similar to that of Sweden, through economic assistance extended to the nations of Africa, Asia and Latin America and the launching of development projects for these areas".

Ahmed Salim said that Tanzania's immediate priority is to achieve food self-sufficiency and that Italy could provide assistance in the farm sector. He noted that his country is in urgent need of such basic agricultural items as farm equipment, fertilizers, insecticides and others "because we now only have the basic minimum for the development of our agriculture". Speaking of another sector, tourism, the prime minister noted that Europeans were discovering Tanzania and affirmed that tourism holds enormous potential as a source of income because of the country's immense natural resources.

BURUNDI

Decree Sets Composition of New Cabinet

EA151448 Bujumbura Domestic Service in French 0420 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Presidential Decree No 100/103 issued 14 September 1984]

[Text] The president of the republic, considering the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi, notably Articles 32, 39, and 40, and considering Presidential Decree No 100-123 of 8 November 1982 relating to the composition of the Government of the Republic of Burundi, hereby decrees:

Article one: The Government of the Republic of Burundi is composed as follows:

Minister of the Presidency in charge of relations with the National Assembly, Lt. Col. Stanislas Mandi;

Minister of the Presidency in charge of the plan, Mr Mathias Sinameye;

Minister of Justice, Mr Vincent Ndikumassabo;

Minister of Interior, Lt. Col. Charles Kazatsa;

Minister of External Relations and Cooperation, Mr Laurent Nzeyimana;

Minister of Finance, Pierre Ngenzi;

Minister of Rural Development, Mr Jean Kabura;

Minister of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Mr Mathias Ntibarikure;

Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr Albert Muganga;

Minister of Transportation, Posts, and Telecommunications, Mr Remy Nkenguruste;

Minister of Public Works, Energy, and Mines, Mr Isidore Nyaboya;

Minister of Public Health, Major Fidele Nsabimana;

Minister of National Education, Mr Isidore Hakizimana;

Minister of Women's Affairs, Mrs Euphrasie Kandecke;

Minister of Social Affairs, Mrs Ceritas Mategeko;

Minister of Labor and Professional Training, Mr Cyrille Barancira;

Minister of Youth, Sports, and Culture, Mr Baltazar Habonimana;

Minister of Information, Mr Benoit Muyebe;

Minister of Civil Service, Mr Damien Barakamfitiye.

Article two: All previous dispositions contrary to the present decree are abrogated.

Article Three: The present decree comes into force on the day of signature.

Issued in Bujumbura on 14 September 1984, [signed] Jean-Baptiste Bagaza.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

France's Guy Penne Received by Kolingba

AB160718 Paris AFP in French 1220 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Bangui, 15 Sep (AFP) — It was learned from Bangui that Guy Penne, French President Francois Mitterrand's adviser on African affairs, who arrived in Bangui yesterday evening from Bujumbura, was received for half an hour this morning by CAR head of state General Andre Kolingba.

The French president's adviser on African affairs did not make any statement to the press at the discussions. Later this evening, Guy Penne will be the guest of the CAR Government at a dinner to be held at the Renaissance Palace. He leaves for Paris tomorrow morning.

Announces Visit by Mitterrand

AB161058 Paris AFP in French 0939 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Bangui, 16 Sep (AFP) — French President Francois Mitterrand will pay an official visit to the CAR on 12 and 13 December, it was learned in Bangui. Guy Penne, adviser to President Mitterrand on African affairs, who made this announcement to the press shortly before his departure for Paris on Sunday morning, stated that the French president will go to the CAR at the end of the French-African summit which is scheduled to take place in Bujumbura on 11 and 12 December.

Departs, Comments on Chad

AB161315 Paris AFP in French 1111 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Bangui, 16 Sep (AFP) — It is France's wish "that Chadians negotiate among themselves and come to a reconciliation," Guy Penne, adviser to French President Francois Mitterrand, stated in Bangui on Sunday at the end of a 2-day visit to the CAR.

Mr Penne, who leaves for Paris today at the end of a tour of many African countries, felt that the "merit of Operation Manta is in having stopped the flow of blood" in Chad. "It is our wish that peace be restored in the south where fighting is still going on," he said. "Chadians must negotiate among themselves and reconcile their differences," he added. "What France wishes and hopes is that Chadians will listen to reason."

CHAD

France, Libya Agree To Withdraw From Chad

AB171025 Paris AFP in English 1019 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Paris, Sept 17 (AFP) — France and Libya have agreed to begin on September 25 a "total and mutual" withdrawal of their troops from Chad, the French Foreign Ministry announced here today.

No Reaction to 'Surprise Announcement'

AB171407 Paris AFP in French 1335 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Ndjamea, 17 Sep (AFP) — Up to late this morning, the Chadian authorities have not reacted to the surprise announcement made in Paris concerning a "total and simultaneous withdrawal from Chad of the French forces and the Libyan elements supporting the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT]" scheduled to begin on 25 September.

It was, however, indicated from an official source in the Chadian capital that the Chadian Government will make its position known in the next few hours. The same source confirmed the presence on Monday in Ndjamena of French Defense Minister Charles Hernu who is believed to have been received by President Hissein Habre.

On the French side, no particular movement was noted on the part of the about 3,000 French soldiers in Chad on Operation Manta launched in August 1983 following the capture of Faya-Largeau by GUNT forces supported by Libya.

France's Defense Minister Arrives in Ndjamena

AB171144 Paris AFP in French 1113 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Paris, 17 Sep (AFP) — French Defense Minister Charles Hernu this morning arrived in Ndjamena where he had discussions with President Hissein Habre, External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson has disclosed on Antenne 2.

Mr Hernu, who was on an official visit to Jordan, suddenly left Amman on Sunday night. The minister then went directly to Chad where the simultaneous withdrawal of French and Libyan forces will begin on 25 September.

GABON

Omar Bongo Leaves on 48-hour Visit to Morocco

AB141813 Paris AFP in French 1355 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Libreville, 14 Sep (AFP) — Gabonese head of state Omar Bongo left Libreville on Friday for Morocco where he is scheduled to pay a 48-hour private visit at the invitation of King Hassan II.

During his stay, President Bongo will hold several rounds of talks with the Moroccan monarch. The invitation to visit Morocco was extended to him last Monday in Libreville through Mr Abdelwahed Radi [title and name as received], the Moroccan secretary of state for cooperation.

On this occasion, the Moroccan envoy brought a message from King Hassan II to President Bongo which mainly concerned the treaty of union between Morocco and Libya.

Briefs

Outgoing Cameroonian Ambassador— Gabonese Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Martin Bongo received in audience yesterday the outgoing Cameroonian ambassador to Gabon, Mr Zachee Mongo Soo, who leaves Libreville soon at the end of an 8-year mission. [Summary] [*Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 16 Sep 84 AB*]

ZAIRE

Official Receives Israeli Message on Arab 'Plot'

AB151120 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The president of the Legislative Council, Citizen Kasongo Mukundji, received yesterday at the National Palace Shlomo Avital, the interim charge d'affaires of the Israeli Embassy, and (Matimo Cobief), the managing director of the [name indistinct] Company.

Shlomo Avital, who was the first to be received, was bearer of a message from the president of the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, to the president of the Legislative Council. In the message, the people of Israel express their concern over the attitude of some Arab countries which are allegedly nursing a plot against Israel within the framework of the forthcoming conference of the Interparliamentary Union, which is expected to take place in a few days in Geneva.

Briefs

Two New Ambassadors— Kinshasa, 14 Sep (AZAP) — Ambassador Lena Mvunda, the deputy chief director of state protocol, received on Friday Mr Jean-Pierre Zehnder, the new ambassador of Switzerland to Zaire, and Mr Brandon Grove, the new ambassador of the United States of America to Zaire. They both came to present the certified true copies of their credentials. [*Kinshasa AZAP in French 1704 GMT 14 Sep 84 AB*]

GHANA

Legal Amendment Provides for Death Penalty

AB142106 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The Special Military Tribunal Law, 1982, has been amended. Under it, members of the Ghana Armed Forces who commit certain offenses shall now, on conviction, be liable to death by firing squad. It said any member of the forces, including retirees or deserters, who incites, assists, or procures any person to invade Ghana or unlawfully subverts any part of the country, shall be guilty of an offense. It is also an offense to assist in the preparation of any such invasion or attack or to prepare or endeavor in any manner to overthrow the government or to usurp any powers of the government. In addition, any member of the Armed Forces who knows of the commission of any of these acts but does not report it to a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] or to any serving police officer not below the rank of sergeant, or to a serving member of the Armed Forces not below the rank of sergeant in the Ghana Army, or its equivalent in the Navy or Air Force, shall be equally guilty of an offense.

According to the law, a person who is not a citizen of Ghana shall not be guilty of anything done outside the country. But a Ghanaian may be tried and punished for an offense in respect of any of those acts whether done in or outside the country. Other offenses liable under the law include assault or molestation and unlawful arrest and obstruction of a public officer or another person in the performance of his duties. Any soldier who commits any of these categories of offenses shall on conviction be liable to any or the combination of the prescribed punishment. Punishments include dismissal with disgrace from the Armed Forces, retention, reduction in rank, forfeiture of seniority, a fine not exceeding 2,000 cedis, and a term of imprisonment not exceeding 2 years.

GRAPHIC on Cedi Devaluation, International Aid

AB150920 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Press review]

[Text] The *PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC* notes that an announcement was recently made informing Ghanaians that the exchange rate of the cedi to dollar has been readjusted upward and wonders whether the trend will ever come to an end. The *GRAPHIC* argues that it is only natural that a weak economy such as Ghana's, which is heavily dependent on external economies for survival, should suffer [words indistinct] until productivity increases and importation decreases. The paper, however, feels that the supportive measures taken by the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] to resuscitate the economoy are yielding positive results and notes that apart from loans coming from Western donor countries, the IMF, and its affiliates, Eastern bloc countries, notably the USSR, China, and Bulgaria, and other Third World nations have either expressed their desire to help or have actually entered into economic cooperation pacts to buttress the Ghanaian economic recovery effort. Additionally, the *GRAPHIC* continues, international companies with holdings in the country are showing Ghana good will, and it cites the agreement by Lonrho, a minority shareholder in the Ashanti Gold Field Corporation, to raise $120 million from monetary consortiums for the extension of the operations of the Ashanti Gold Field as a case in point.

The paper submits that the success of all these economic recovery efforts depends on the Ghanaians' attitude to work and calls on all Ghanaian workers to shake themselves from their sleep. The *GRAPHIC* ends its editorial by sharing the advice of Dr Kwesi Botchway, secretary for finance and economic planning, who told Ghanaians that improvement of work habits and management capabilities of Ghanaians will ensure success.

GUINEA

Traore Announces Talks on Union With Mali

AB170919 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Guinea and Mali are to hold talks aimed at achieving a union between the two countries. This was disclosed in Conakry by the Guinean Prime Minister Colonel Diarra Traore.

He said there are no obstacles in the way of opening talks on the issue because relations between the two countries are excellent.

Talks on the merger of Guinea and Mali were interrupted as a result of the coup in Guinea last April. A merger between Mali and Senegal collapsed after a few months in the early sixties. During the same period, there was a union between Ghana, Guinea and Mali.

GUINEA-BISSAU

President Vieira Pays Visit to France

For Paris reportage on the visit to France by President Joao Bernardo Vieira, including his meeting with President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 14 September Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

LIBERIA

Former Justice Minister To Stand Trial for Theft

AB161348 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The sheriff of the theft court at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia, Major John G. Harris, has disclosed that hearings in the $800,000 case against former Justice Minister Chea Cheapoo will begin Thursday of this week. He told reporters last week that he had personally served the notice of assignment on the lawyer appearing for the former justice minister, Counselor Louis K. Free, Senior.

Mr Cheapoo was arrested on 4 September following his arrival on Swissair Flight 242 from an unknown destination. When he first appeared at the theft court, he told the court that he would prefer to remain in jail until his bail in the amount of $1.2 million was processed.

NIGERIA

Reportage on Strike by Resident Doctors

FMG Issues Ultimatum

AB150922 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Special statement issued by the Federal Military Government in Lagos on 15 September 1984 on the ongoing strike by resident doctors]

[Text] The Federal Military Government [FMG] has reviewed the ongoing industrial action by some resident doctors in some federal health institutions in the country. In doing so, the demands of the resident doctors vis a vis the actions taken by the Federal Ministry of Health were critically scrutinized.

It should be noted that even before the Zaria meeting of some resident doctors held on the 7th of July 1984, at which the 40-day ultimatum was given, action had been taken or started by the appropriate arm of the government on all the issues raised by the doctors except the issue of the discipline of some (?outstanding) residents. Suffice it to say that action taken on each of the issues has been fully explained in the release issued by the Federal Ministry of Health. For example, on the issue of drugs and medical products, the following action has been taken. Import licenses to the tune of 115 million naira broken down as follows:

Raw materials	18,739,000 naira;
Finished drugs	72,950,000 naira;
Surgical dressing	3,165,000 naira;
Medical devices	20,104,276 naira;

have been issued to the pharmaceutical companies since the inception of this administration. [Words indistinct] and the requirements of federal health institutions for which provisions have been made, the government is taking the unprecedented action to bulk purchase very essential drugs and medical products to the tune of 3 million naira. On additional subvention, the government has recently released the sum of 25 million naira for the payment of salary arrears and the purchase of additional drugs. This step has been taken in accordance with the commitment of this government to health care delivery even before they embarked on this action and the government expected that they should have shown more understanding of the constraints on the processes of implementation.

In the light of this, the FMG believes that the action of the striking resident doctors is not only unethical but also callous and irresponsible, particularly as they were fully briefed even before they embarked on such an action. In addition, the interministerial committee, at which four ministers were present, took pains to review these actions, constraints, and the (?mechanics) of project policy implementation. The point was also made that the needs of the health sector must be seen in the context of the needs of the other equally deserving sectors of the economy. Consequently, the government has decided as follows:

All striking resident doctors must report for normal duty by 0800 this morning, Saturday, 15 September 1984. Any doctor failing to comply with this directive will be treated without any formalities in accordance with the provisions of the relevant rules governing his employment.

Finally, it should be made abundantly clear that this administration is committed to the improvement of health care delivery in the country and will do everything possible within the available resources to ensure the achievement of this objective.

The general public and in particular the senior colleagues of the resident doctors are therefore enjoined to bear the economic reality in mind and cooperate with the FMG in its arduous task.

Only 3 Doctors Report

AB151138 Lagos NAN in English 1130 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Lagos, Sept 15 (NAN) — Only three of the 227 resident doctors at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital [LUTH] had reported for work as of 11:20 a.m. today in compliance with yesterday's directive by the Federal Military Government that all striking doctors should report for work at 8 a.m.

The director of administration at the hospital, Chief Felix Adwunmi, told NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) correspondent that the names of the doctors, a senior resident doctor, a resident pediatrician and a medical supernumerary were being withheld for security reasons.

He said that a register had been opened for the signature of any doctor wishing to comply with the government directive.

Maiduguri Doctors Continue Strike

AB151250 Lagos NAN in English 1240 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Maiduguri, Sept. 15 (NAN) — The striking resident doctors at Maiduguri University Teaching Hospital, are yet to call off the action in spite of the Federal Military Government directives that all the doctors should resume duty this morning, the acting medical director of the hospital, Prof K. Chugh has said.

He told a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) in Maiduguri today that none of the striking doctors reported for duty even though the skeleton services continued.

He said that consultants had continued to attend emergency cases at both the in-patients and out-patients departments, adding that the number of patients patronising the hospital had dropped.

All efforts to contact the officials of the Resident Doctors Association at the hospital failed as none of them was around.

Reaction to Government Statement

AB160720 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The Nigerian Medical Association has reacted to the government order on striking doctors. In a statement the association said that it believed more could be achieved through dialogue. It reiterated that the doctors withdrew their services because the instruments for the performance of their duties were not available.

Earlier the Federal Government has directed the doctors to report for duty yesterday. The government warned that any of them who failed to comply with the order should be treated without any formality in accordance with the provisions of the relevant rules governing his employment.

A Radio Nigeria correspondent said a register of attendance has been opened at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital for the resident doctors wishing to comply with the government's directive. He added that some of the doctors have started reporting for duty.

Oil Minister Denies Oil Price Concessions

AB141340 Lagos NAN in English 1315 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Lagos, Sept. 14 (NAN) — The minister of petroleum and energy, Prof. Tam. David-West, said in Lagos today that the Federal Military Government did not give concessions to any country to purchase its crude-oil. The minisister said in an interview with the NEWS AGENCY of NIGERIA (NAN) that some foreign media were "putting out false stories to destabilize the oil market and maximize the gains of consumer nations."

The minister, who was reacting to a "Voice of America" report that Nigeria had granted some concessions to Antigua, said that the NNPC only signed an agreement with Antigua in march for the supply of 20,000 barrels of crude oil a day. He said that although Antigua made a request for an increase in the quantity of the crude and the mix, the request was subject to negotiations by the two countries.

He expressed the willingness of the Federal Military Government to negotiate on a government-to-government basis for supply of crude to any country in Africa and the Caribbean.

Prof. David-West said that any African country that buys crude from Nigeria will enjoy a 30-day credit facility while ECOWAS member-countries will get the facility for 90 days.

Minister Off to Talks in SFRY, Romania, Bulgaria

AB141907 Dakar PANA in English 1426 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Ikeja, (Nigeria), 14 Sept (NAN/PANA) — Nigeria's minister of national planning, Chief Michael Adigun, left Lagos on Thursday for Belgrade to attend the sixth session of the Nigeria-Yugoslavia Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

The meeting, which is to begin on Monday, is expected to identify problems militating against the desired level of cooperation between the two countries and to propose ways of reducing the imbalance in trade relations. The minister is also expected to attend similar talks between Nigeria and Romania in Bucharest on 20 September, and between Nigeria and Bulgaria in Sofia on 24 September. He is expected back home on 30 September.

Foreign Minister Gambari To Visit France, FRG

AB141739 Lagos NAN in English 1606 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Lagos, Sept 14 (NAN) — The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, will leave Lagos on Monday for a three-day official visit to France, a source at the Ministry of External Affairs said today.

The source told a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that Dr Gambari is scheduled to hold talks with his French counterpart, Claude Cheysson, who visited Nigeria early this year. The minister will also deliver a special message from the head of state, Maj General Muhammadu Buhari, to President Francois Mitterrand of France.

The minister will be accompanied by the director general (regions) in his ministry, Ambassador B.A.T. Balewa, and some senior officials. Before returning to Lagos, the minister is scheduled to pay a brief visit to West Germany, where he will hold talks with his West German counterpart, Mr Genscher.

TRIBUNE Accuses Al-Qadhdhafi of Intimidation

AB141202 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *NIGERIAN TRIBUNE* critically assesses a recent call by the Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, urging African countries to choose between cooperating with Arabs or Israel. The paper agress that the relationship between the African and the Arab world has been very cordial over the years. It, however, notes that Col al-Qadhdhafi's call is an attempt to intimidate as well as blackmail some African countries. It points out that Al-Qadhadhafi should have extended his threat to several European countries which maintain diplomatic and economic ties with Israel. The *TRIBUNE* therefore advises African nations to conduct their foreign policy the way it suits them.

HERALD Condemns U.S., British 'Interference'

AB141200 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *NIGERIA HERALD* expressed dissatisfaction over the continued interference by the United States of America and Britain (?about how) the Federal Military Government handles the former president and his vice. The paper condemns both the

United States and Britain for their increasing interest in Nigeria's corrupt politicians. The *HERALD* dismisses as unreasonable the recent views expressed by the United States over the detention of corrupt public officers.

Compliance Wanted With OAU Decisions on SDAR

AB141811 Lagos International Service in English 1430 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] In recent years the solidarity of the OAU has been threatened by a number of problems, including that of Western Sahara. In 1982, this problem nearly tore the continental body asunder when two attempts to convene the OAU's 19th summit in Tripoli, Libya, failed due to lack of a quorum. Most of the countries which boycotted the first abortive meeting did so in protest against the admission into the OAU of the SDAR, which was proclaimed by the Polisario Front in Western Sahara.

But that sad experience could have been averted if the OAU resolutions earlier passed on Western Sahara had been implemented. The many OAU resolutions, among other things, called for a cease-fire and a referendum. The referendum is to enable the people of Western Sahara to freely determine whether they want a state of their own or be part of Morocco which had been claiming sovereignty over the territory. But the implementation of the resolutions had been frustrated by Morocco. It is against this background that the need for cooperation to implement the resolutions by all parties to the dispute becomes very imperative. Such compliance can no longer be delayed. The principal actors, Morocco and the Polisario, owe a duty to Africa to make the settlement of the Western Sahara problem easy by complying at once with the OAU directive.

It is only fair to acknowledge that, on its part, the Polisario has shown considerable flexibility and concern for the solidarity of the OAU. For example, the Polisario cooperated with the OAU by voluntarily withdrawing from the 19th summit so as to remove the ground for protest by some states. It is this type of gesture that has not been demonstrated by Morocco, thereby making the work of the OAU Implementation Committee on Western Sahara difficult. All member states to the OAU are fully aware of the provisions of the OAU's Charter on two important issues relevant to the Western Sahara situation. One is the declaration of all national boundaries, as it's independence should be respected and retained, and the other is OAU's support for self-determination for all people.

This OAU concept was reaffirmed recently by African leaders who went to Nigeria. President Eyadema of Togo and President Pereira of Cape Verde joined their Nigerian colleague, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, in calling on the parties to the Western Sahara conflict to implement the OAU resolutions. They stressed that it was important to resolve the crisis once and for all so that the OAU might meet and devote its energy to positive ends. It is clear that the wish of the vast majority of African states is that the implementation of the OAU resolutions on Western Sahara, which is long overdue, is not further delayed.

Control of African Development Bank Viewed

AB141225 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Alex Ekenyawu commentary]

[Excerpt] The African Development Bank [ADB] in its 20-year history has been playing significant roles in reshaping the economies of many African states. It is, of course, because these states are becoming increasingly aware that it is only an international financial institution like the ADB, founded by countries with identical problems, that can direct them toward the path of economic emancipation. The reason is that the experiences of many Third World countries, especially African states, in the hand of other international finance bodies — particularly the International Monetary Fund — is nothing to write home about. The stringent lending policies of the IMF have made African states that have serious cash flow problems in meeting their import requirements and other development programs to reject the loans from the fund. Therefore in some case, accepting IMF loans means loss of economic sovereignty and the borrowing country is likely to devalue her currency and relent import restriction. This, in the long run, would benefit the Western countries that finance the IMF.

Some people might ask why most African countries still seek loans and assistance from the IMF when the ADB has been in existence for almost 2 decades. The answer is, of course, simple: The poor economies of ADB's 50 African shareholders have made it very difficult to increase the bank's share capital. For instance, by July of 1979 the authorized share capital of the bank was under 2 billion naira. Many African countries do not pay their subscriptions to the bank. Again, 37 of the bank's African sharesholders are behind in payment for shares which they have underwritten. This represents a total arrears of 81 million units of account.

Perhaps this was the determining factor in admitting 22 non-African states as members of the bank. Although the need for this move had long been recognized, the fear has been that admission of non-African states would drastically alter the philosophy in African characters of the bank. [as heard] It was also feared that, as major contributors, the non-African states would take over the control of the bank since he who pays the piper dictates the tune. To guard against this, ADB's statutes provide that two-thirds of the shareholding and consequent voting strength must remain within the African Continent.

Again, Nigeria's finance minister, in an address at the recently concluded general assembly of the ADB in Nairobi, said that Nigeria would resist any arrangements that risk to jeopardize Africa's control of the bank.

The statement should be taken more seriously when it is noted that Nigeria is ADB's principal shareholder and its executive director. Although the membership of the non-African states is expected to raise the share capital of the ADB to above 5 billion naira, the safeguards in the bank's statutes, coupled with Nigeria's position in the bank will, no doubt, put the affairs of the bank under the firm control of African states.

SENEGAL

UNIFIL Participation Not To Be Continued

AB151110 Paris AFP in French 0757 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Dakar, 14 Sep (AFP) — The Senegalese Government has decided not to renew the participation of its contingent in the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), it was announced this afternoon by the permanent under secretary of the Senegalese Ministry of Armed Forces, Amadou Fall, who was questioned by AFP on this matter.

Mr Fall declined to say why the Senegalese Government had made this decision, but he pointed out that the reasons had been given to the United Nations. The UN Information Office in Dakar, however, which was contacted today on this matter, said it was not informed of the Senegalese Government's decision to terminate its participation in the UNIFIL.

Meanwhile, it was learned from an informed source in Dakar that a Senegalese military mission visited Chad recently, but it was denied officially in the Senegalese capital that Senegalese troops from the UNIFIL would be sent to Ndjamena.

Senegal has participated in the UNIFIL since April 1978 when it dispatched a first contingent of 600 men to the region. Since then other Senegalese battalions have followed and have been changed every 6 months.

The Senegalese contingents were stationed along the Litania River which divides Lebanon in two parts from east to west. The costs of their transportation, their stay, and upkeep were paid entirely by the United Nations. Since 1978, 10 Senegalese soldiers serving in the UNIFIL have been killed in southern Lebanon.

Moroccan Envoy Comments on Meeting With Diouf

AB141235 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Moroccan Minister of Cooperation Abdelwahed Radi, who brought a message from King Hassan II, was received this morning by the head of state. They held talks on the Oujda Accord that was signed between Morocco and Libya 4 weeks ago. This is what the special envoy from Rabat disclosed to the national press after the audience. Here he is answering reporter Iba Diop's questions:

[Begin recording] [Radi] I was greatly honored, along with Mr (Soussi), to have delivered a message from his majesty the king to His Excellency President Abdou Diouf concerning the Arab-African union, the treaty of which was signed in Oujda by His Excellency Hassan II and President al-Qadhdhafi and approved in a referendum by the Moroccan people. I conveyed to him the contents of the accord, that is, the text.

I can say that the accord is positive and seeks to unify the efforts of the Arab and African countries which can adhere to its various articles so as to unify their efforts in defense of peace and in coordination of their economic, social, and cultural policies. It also seeks to organize their defense against Zionism, imperialism, and colonialism.

This accord is not directed against anyone; on the contrary, it is open to all Africans, Arabs, and people of the Maghreb so that together they can work toward the achievement of the ideals of Africans and Arabs and their aspiration for unity [words indistinct].

Reflecting its desire for goodwill, Morocco has approved the treaty accord signed between Algeria, Tunisia, and Mauritania; it feels that this agreement is good and positive and that all this might one day lead to the unification of the Maghreb and the rest of the Arab world.

[Diop] What has been Senegal's reaction to this accord?

[Radi] Senegal's reaction? I cannot speak for Senegal, but rather for President Abdou Diouf. Considering the fraternal friendly relations existing between President Abdou Diouf and his majesty the king, I believe they understand each other very well and they have confidence in each other. This is why we have received nothing but comforting and encouraging words from Senegal, and we are very satisfied with this meeting and the president's reaction. [end recording]

Cape Verde's Pereira Confers With Diouf

AB160736 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] President Abdou Diouf yesterday afternoon held talks with his Cape Verdian counterpart, Aristides Pereira, who arrived in Dakar late yesterday morning for a 24-hour working visit to Senegal. He was welcomed on arrival by President Diouf, surrounded by many members of government and many personalities. The Cape Verdian head of state leaves Dakar today at 1130.

ANGOLA

Armed Forces Operations Kill 24 'Armed Bandits'

MB141945 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Some 24 armed bandits who were operating in the regions of Cabinda, Moxico, Bie, Benguela, and Uige were annihilated by the Angolan National Security and Defense Forces between 29 August and 6 September. According to military sources cited by ANGOP, during the offensive operations carried out by the Angolan combatants, some peasants, who were being held in custody by the puppets, were liberated and various arms and ammunition were seized.

Dos Santos Returns From Visits to Spain, Ethiopia

AB161410 Dakar PANA in French 1258 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Luanda, 16 Sep (ANGOP/PANA) — Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, returned to Luanda last night from Madrid, after making stopovers in Malta and Kano, Nigeria. Spain was the last leg of a tour that took him successively to France and Italy. Before visiting these three European countries the Angolan head of state took part in the constitutive congress of the Ethiopian Workers Party.

UNITA Threatens Reprisals if Zambia Aids MPLA

MB141635 (clandestine) Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpt] New aggressions against our country are being planned across the border. According to a communique from the UNITA Central Committee, dated 28 August and signed by Dr Jonas Savimbi, comrade chairman of the party and supreme commander of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA], Zambia is preparing to allow its territory to be used as a base by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and the Cubans to invade UNITA-liberated territory. This measure represents an intolerable offense to the dignity of our people.

Thus, UNITA reserves the right to give a prompt, strong response in case Zambia wants to fulfill its plans to interfere in the Angolan conflict. The UNITA Central Committee communique says that while we want good relations with Zambia and with other neighboring states, today we are strong enough to continue the battle against the Cubans in Angola and at the same time defend our liberated borders with our own blood.

If Zambia fails to heed our appeal for good relations with neighboring African states, we warn it with great care to think seriously about the part of Comrade President Dr Savimbi's message to the nation which says: Any neighboring African country which sides with the MPLA will be attacked by UNITA. The struggle triumphs! United we shall win!

BOTSWANA

Post-Election Cabinet Reshuffle Conducted

AB141851 Dakar PANA in English 1256 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Gaborone, 14 Sept (BOPA/PANA) — President Quett Masire has announced a cabinet reshuffle following the landslide victory of his Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) in the general elections last Saturday. Mr Archibald Mogwe, the former minister of external affairs, who suffered a shock defeat by the opposition Botswana National Front (BNF) in his bid for the Gaborone North constituency, becomes minister of mineral resources and water affairs, according to news reports today.

This portfolio was held by Dr Gaositwe Chuepe and she takes over Mr Mogwe's external affairs portfolio. One other woman, Minister Mrs Kebatshabile Disele, who held the portfolio of Home Affairs, has been dropped. Like Mr Mogwe, she was defeated at the polls and the two were among four members who were specially nominated to the last parliament. Mrs Disele's portfolio has been taken over by Mr Englishman Gabo.

The Botswana constitution allows the president to nominate up to four additional members of parliament, even among those defeated at the polls, to serve in the 34-seat parliament after every general election. The portfolio of local government and lands has been given to former assistant minister Mr Lesedi Movubamele who has been upgraded to minister, according to the announcement. He will have two assistant ministers, Mr Obed Chilume and Mr Michael Tshipinare.

A former director of Government Personnel, Mr Honorius Kedikilwe, becomes a new assistant minister of finance and development planning under Vice President Mr Peter Mmusi who retains the finance and development planning portfolio. The rest of the members of the previous cabinet retain their portfolios, added the announcement. The session of the new parliament is scheduled to meet on 8 October it was also announced.

MOZAMBIQUE

Security Forces Smash 'Armed Bandit' Network

MB161243 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The defense and security forces in Beira have just smashed a network of informers for the armed bandits, which has been operating since 1981 in the railroad and harbor complex of that city. The group, comprised of crane operators, a supervisor, and an accounts clerk of Mozambique Railroad, was supposed to collect and send classified information to the armed bandits through meetings in Nhamatanda.

In statements to reporters in Beira, (Francisco Chicocolo), (Joaquim Muchango), and (Julio Mendonca), three members of the group, confessed to having supplied information to the bandits on the harbor and the railroad, including the quantity and type of cargo loaded and unloaded, its destination, and its sender. The same group also sent data on the war material transiting Beira harbor. The network was set up to recruit youths to swell the ranks of the armed bandits. Each member supplied monthly 250 meticals, medicines, educational material, and other goods to support the armed bandits.

Further on MNR 'Spy Ring'

PA161655 Paris AFP in English 1641 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Maputo, Sep 16 (AFP) — Mozambican Security Forces have broken a spy ring operating in Beira, the country's second largest city, for the rebel Mozambican National Resistance (MNR), the Mozambican news agency AIM reported today. AIM said the spies had passed on classified information, particularly about the movements and cargoes of trains and ships, to MNR bands in the countryside. Information was passed on regularly at clandestine meetings held in the district of Nhamatanda, about 100 kms (60 miles) inland from Beira.

The number of people arrested was not given but the group consisted of crane operators, a port checking clerk and an accountant for Mozambique Railways central division, the agency said. Three of those arrested told journalists in Beira that their task had been to transmit information about the arrival and departure of trains and ships, the type of cargo loaded or unloaded and the ports of origin or destination of every ship.

The spies also contributed 250 meticals (about six U.S. dollars) each per month to the MNR, as well as stolen medicines and other goods, indicating that this group was voluntarily involved in bandit activities, unlike many young peasants pressganged at gunpoint into the MNR. The spy ring had been operating in Beira since 1981, AIM said. During that time there have been two major acts of sabotage in the city, the destruction of marker buoys at the harbour entrance in November 1981 and the destruction of the Beira fuel storage complex in December 1982. Information from the spies would have also been useful to the MNR in planning ambushes of trains on the Beira-Zimbabwe and Beira-Malawi railway lines.

MNRM Claims Responsibility for Luabo Attack

PA161252 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1026 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Lisbon, 16 Sep (EFE) — The antigovernment Mozambique National Resistance Movement (MNRM) claimed responsibility in Lisbon today for an attack on the township of Luabo, in the central province of Zambezi, in which it killed 36 soldiers and 11 militiamen of the regular forces. According to the MNRM, the attack on that important sugar center took place on 11 September and included the destruction of several factory installations, sugarcane plantations, and 60 tractors.

Radio Mozambique confirmed the Luabo attack, reporting that 24 persons were killed and 20 wounded, and that some 50 houses were destroyed. The government radio reported that MNRM guerrillas sustained 25 dead and 10 wounded in the action and that the regular forces followed the guerrillas after the attack and freed some 1,000 civilians whom the guerrillas had abducted. On 8 September during another MNRM attack on the sugar community of Marroneu in the central province of Sofala, Zacarias Tomas, a member of the Central Committee of the Mozambique Liberation Front, Frelimo, was killed.

Armed Forces Destroy MNR Base in Nampula

MB141847 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpt] The Mozambican Armed Forces have destroyed an important base of the Mozambique National Resistance armed bandits in Nampula Province in the north of the country. The Armed Forces General Staff said in a communique tonight that the base was situated between the port of Nacala and the small inland town of Emconta. It was being used by the bandits to launch attacks on the road and railway links between the port and the provincial capital, Nampula town.

In the Army attack on the base, which was carried out on Tuesday this week, 13 bandits were killed and 50 were captured. The communique says a substantial quantity of goods, which the bandits had stolen from the local people, was recovered.

Minister Veloso Assesses Results of UK Visit

MB140936 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Jacinto Veloso, minister in the Presidency for Economic Affairs, yesterday ended a 5-day official visit to Britain. He regarded the results as positive. There is a greater understanding in Britain about Mozambique and Southern Africa and the prevailing problems, Jacinto Veloso said in an exclusive interview with the BBC. He added that he also noted Britain's readiness to contribute in a positive manner to solving the most important problems in Southern Africa.

The visit was aimed at discussing and assessing some important aspects of cooperation, such as agriculture, mining industry, and transportation, Jacinto Veloso said. According to Jacinto Veloso, there is already concrete data that soon will result in the signing of accords and contracts for important projects.

Veloso Says Government Will Not Meet 'Armed Gangs'

MB141557 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Jacinto Veloso, minister in the Presidency for Economic Affairs, has stressed that the Government of Mozambique is not prepared to hold talks with the armed gangs and will not adopt such an attitude in the future. The armed gangs do not have a political base nor constitute a political movement, but a movement of destabilization and violent and organized banditry, Jacinto Veloso said. The minister in the Presidency for Economic Affairs was answering a question made by a journalist of the BBC in London.

During his stay in Britain, Jacinto Veloso held talks with the minister of foreign affairs and other members of the British Government. Yesterday he was honored with a function held by the Southern African Association.

Machel Receives Departing Lesotho Ambassador

MB150610 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] President Samora Machel yesterday received David Satela Makoe, Lesotho's outgoing ambassador to Maputo, for a farewell visit. The outgoing ambassador returns to his country soon at the end of his assignment to the People's Republic of Mozambique. During the audience the Mozambican head of state stressed the excellent level of relations between our country and the Kingdom of Lesotho, not only at the bilateral level, but also within the Southern African Development Coordination Conference.

SOUTH AFRICA

Police Disperse Student Demonstrators in Cape Town

MB141535 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1514 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 14, SAPA — Riot police moved onto the University of the Western Cape campus today and fired rubber bullets and teargas at students who had earlier closed Modderdam Road to traffic and stoned passing vehicles. About 800 students decided at a meeting to block Modderdam Road in protest at the inauguration of Mr P.W. Botha as executive state president, and resolved that students would not throw stones.

Carrying placards, the students gathered in the middle of Modderdam Road and prevented traffic from passing. Stones and bottles were thrown at traffic that broke through the roadblock. Within 10 minutes traffic police had closed the road further away from the campus and turned vehicles away. Students then set fire to tires and refuse in the middle of the road outside the university entrance.

About five riot police vans arrived at the campus at about 12;40 pm, half an hour after the students had blocked the road. Pursued by police, the students ran back on to the campus. No warning was given before police opened fire with rubber bullets. A warning followed the first shots. Teargas was also used to disperse students who had gathered between the building near Modderdam Road.

A visibly concerned Professor Jaap Durand, vice rector of the university, who had earlier appealed to students to return to the campus, declined to comment to the press until he had spoken to the police.

Bomb Explodes in Krugersdorp; No One Hurt

MB141912 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] A bomb exploded in the offices of the Department of Cooperation and Development in Commissioner Street, Krugersdorp, about an hour ago. Police says no one was injured and the extent of the damage is not know at this stage.

One Man Dies as Riots Continue To Flare

AB161400 Paris AFP in English 1351 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Pretoria, Sept 16 (AFP) — A man was killed when police dispersed a rioting crowd with rubber bullets and teargas in the Katlehong black township east of Johannesburg, a police headquarters spokesman said today. This brings to 36 the number of people who have died in townships in the Transvaal since violence broke out two weeks ago. The spokesman said the townships were "quiet but tense" today.

Thousands of people gathered in the Sharpeville, Sebokeng, and Evaton townships yesterday for the funerals of 45 people killed in the disturbances. Three buses were still missing today after being stolen at the funerals. The drivers had been attacked and the buses stoned before members of the crowd drove off with them. Meanwhile the "Release (Nelson) Mandela Campaign", the Congress of South African Students and the Azanian Students' Organization issued a pamphlet in Soweto, the largest black township in South Africa, calling for a mass stay-at-home tomorrow in protest at South Africa's new constitution.

Fugitives in UK Consulate Preparing Court Appeal

MB141931 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] A spokesman for the Natal Indian Congress, [NIC] Dr Farouk Meer, has said in Durban that the legal team representing the fugitives in the British Consulate are preparing to bring an urgent application before the Supreme Court this weekend.

The application will call for the order for the redetention of the six men to be declared invalid. Dr Meer told our Durban staff that British Consulate staff were making things increasingly difficult for the six who are members of the NIC and the United Democratic Front. He said the six were not likely to emerge from the consulate until the Supreme Court had given a decision on the application.

Wives Allowed to Visit

MB142001 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2000 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Durban, Sept 14, SAPA — The sit-in in Durban's British Consulate took a dramatic turn today when the wives of the six fugitives announced they would go on a hunger strike in the consulate if they were not allowed to see their husbands. However, at 6 pm the five women were allowed into the inner room of the consulate to see the fugitives together for the first time since their detention on August 21.

Mrs Ngla Ramgobin, Mrs Suna Naidoo, Mrs Edith Gumede, Mrs Ursuala David, and Miss Angie Nair were in the consulate. Mrs Elsie Nair intended to join them later. They were demanding access to the men in order to obtain power of attorney rights. "We are very pleased with the change in attitude of consular officials. It was good to see them all again. They are in high spirits," said Mrs Ramgobin after the 30 minute visit tonight. It is believed the earliest they will be able to see the men again is on Monday as the building will be locked over the weekend.

In an open letter last night to the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the fugitives' legal representatives called on the British Government to assist in securing the release of all Section 28 detainees. "Our clients are convinced that your government certainly has the power to secure the demands of the leadership. We believe your refusal to do so amounts to a condonation of and even the support for the evil of apartheid, the practice of detention without trial, and the use of a barrage of arbitrary legislation to maintain the status quo," it said. The British Government was also accused of deliberately executing a sophisticated campaign of coercion intended to force the men to leave the consulate.

Earlier Archbishop Denis Hurley and Rev Sol Jacob of the South African Council of Churches met the fugitives. Rev Jacob said they were living in a room some five-by-three metres and sleeping on the floor. But they were well and in high spirits, considering the restrictive conditions, he said. "they have been denied the use of toilet facilities in the corridor during the day, but temporary facilities are available. Also, in accordance with consular regulations, they have been denied the use of a radio," Rev Jacob said.

Mrs Ramgobin did not know why the men had chosen to seek refuge in the British Consulate, but felt it might be because of the British tradition of democracy.

PFP Leader Seeks Assurances

MB151239 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1147 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 15, SAPA — The leader of the Progressive Federal Party, Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert, today called on the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, to give the six former detainees, now hiding in the British Consulate in Durban, an assurance they could come out and do whatever they wanted as legal citizens of South Africa.

He spoke at the PFP's Cape congress and said he found it touching Mr le Grange had given assurances to do nothing which would embarrass the British Government. "I will be much happier if he and his department will do nothing to embarrass South Africa. All he has to do is give the assurance that they (the detainees) can come out and do whatever they want to do as legal citizens of South Africa and I call on him to do so. Give them the assurance they will not be detained or tell us and the British why he wants to detain them and, if the charges are serious enough, tell us why he is not prepared to take them to a court of law and give them the chance to defend themselves."

NIC Leader Flies to UK

MB160625 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The Natal Indian Congress [NIC] launched another attempt to get the British Government to intervene in the consulate drama in Durban. NIC Leader (Zac Yacoob) has flown to London to put the case of the six men who sought refuge against detention in the British Consulate. (Yacoob) has accused local consular officials of being unhelpful to the six political fugitives. Carmel Rickard reports;

[Rickard] According to (Yacoob), he will be presenting three demands that the Durban consulate offers sanctuary, that they provide certain facilities to the six refugees and that the British Government itself intervene in the situation and apply what pressure it could to get the release of all the detainees. The relatives of the six also lashed out at the treatment being given to the leaders in the consulate and said that they were treated like unwanted guests.

Ella Ramgobin, wife of Mewa Ramgobin, one of the six who has been [words indistinct] the consulate since Thursday morning, says that the relatives are very angry. They thought that the British officials would be much more sympathetic about visiting than the South African prisons and police had been when the six were in detention, but she said, "it seems we were wrong." During the news conference, it was announced that an urgent Supreme Court application challenging the validity of the orders after the detention of the six would be heard on Monday or Tuesday.

Botha Announces Reorganized Ministerial Portfolios

MB151605 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1556 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 15, SAPA — The president, Mr P.W. Botha, today announced a new combination of ministerial portfolios. These had been necessitated by rationalisation and new names had been given to some ministries, Mr Botha said. A number of shifts in certain modules in departments were also being made.

The 25 departments for general affairs would be grouped in the following ministries:

State president, consisting of: the State President's Office; the National Intelligence Services, including the Secretariat of the State Security Council; the Office of the Commission for Administration, which is delegated to the minister of home affairs and national education;

Transport Services, consisting of: the South African Transport Services; the Department of Transport;

Constitutional Development and Planning, consisting of: the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning; the Scientific Advisory Council is shifted to this ministry from the former Office of the Prime Minister; the Group Areas Council is also shifted here from the former Department of Community Development;

Foreign Affairs, consisting of: the Department of Foreign Affairs, including the Information Service; for administrative purposes the SABC will continue to function under this ministry.

Home Affairs and National Education, consisting of: the Department of Home Affairs; the Department of National Education; the Department of Home Affairs is the remainder of the present Department of Internal Affairs, after the transfer of Own Affairs; Own Affairs have also been transferred from the Department of National Education, but this name is retained; population registration of blacks is being taken over by the Department of Home Affairs from the Department of Cooperation and Development;

Law and Order, consisting of: the South African Police; the Directorate of Security Legislation of the Department of Justice.

Communication and Public Works, consisting of: the Department of Posts and Telecommunications; the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs; the Department of Pubic Works and Land Affairs is the remainder of the present Department of Community Development after the transfer of Own Affairs; the Group Areas Council is transferred to the minister of constitutional affairs and planning;

Health and Welfare, consisting of: the Department of Health and Welfare; certain affairs are transferred as Own Affairs from this department.

Cooperation, Development and Education, consisting of: the Department of Cooperation and Development; the Department of Education and Training; the Department of Education and Training ramains unchanged, except for the coordination of education in the independent homelands and related functions which have up to now resorted under cooperation and development, which are now transferred to education and training; the Department of Cooperation and Development will transfer the following functions — population registration of blacks to Home Affairs, and certain legal functions with regard to blacks, to the Department of Justice;

Defence, consisting of: the Department of Defence; Armscor and its filials will continue to function under the minister of defence;

Manpower, consisting of: the Department of Manpower.

Industries and Commerce, consisting of: the Department of Industries and Commerce; the South African Tourist Council is transferred elsewhere.

Justice, consisting of: the Department of Justice, including the Directorate of Prisons; certain legal functions with regard to blacks are transferred to this ministry from the Department of Cooperation and Development.

Agricultural Economics and Water Affairs, consisting of: the Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing; the Department of Water Affairs; the Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing is the remainder of the present Department of Agriculture after the transfer of Own Affairs; the existing Directorate of Water Affairs, is established as a separate department after the transfer of Own Affairs; the Water Councils, Irrigation Councils, and the Water Research Commission are transferred to the minister of agricultural economics and water affairs from the former Environment Affairs;

Minister and Energy Affairs, consisting of: the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs;

Finance, consisting of: the Department of Finance; the Office of the Auditor-General.

Environment Affairs and Tourism, consisting of: the Department of Environment Affairs; the remainder of the Department of Environment Affairs after the transfer of Own Affairs, and after the transfer of Water Affairs, remains as the Department of Environment Affairs, consisting of Environmental Conservation, Forestry and Marine affairs; the South African Tourism Council is now placed under this ministry.

New Cabinet Appointments Named

MB151510 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1456 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] President Botha also announced that the chairmen of the three ministers councils dealing with "Own Affairs" would be Dr Nak van der Merwe, Mr Armijand Rajbansi, and the Reverend Alan Hendrickse.

The other members of the Ministers Council for "White Affairs" would be: Dr Nak van der Merwe, who, in addition to his role as chairman of the council, would also handle health services and welfare; Mr Sarel Hayward who would be responsible for agriculture and water supplies; Mr Amie Venter who would handle local government, housing and works; Mr Eli Louw who would be responsible for budgetry affairs; the former administrator of Natal, Mr Stoffel Botha, who would handle education and culture.

The Ministers Council for Colored Affairs will comprise Mr Hendrickse (chairman), Mr David Curry (local government, housing, and agriculture), Mr A.A. Julies (budgetry affairs), Mr C.J. April (health services and welfare), and Mr Carter Embrahim (education and culture).

The Ministers Council for Indian Affairs will consist of Mr Rajbansi (chairman), Mr Kassipershad Ramduth (education and culture), Mr Balded Dookie (local government, housing, and agriculture), Mr M.S. Padayachee (health services and welfare), Mr Boetie Abramjee (Budgetry affairs).

President Botha also announced the appointment of Mr Hendrik Schoeman as leader of the House of Assembly and the former government chief whip, Mr Alex van Breda, to the new post of chief parliamentary whip.

Mr Botha also announced that in terms of powers vested in him, he was appointing Mr Stoffel Botha and Dr E.H. Rina Venter to the House of Assembly, Mr C.J. April and Mr D. Lockey to the House of Representatives, and Mr M. Thaver and Mr R.S. Nowbath to the House of Delegates.

The 25 departments for "General Affairs" will be grouped in the following ministeries: Executive State President, Mr P.W. Botha; Transport Services, Mr Hendrik Schoeman; Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis and Mr Piet

Badenhorst (deputy); Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha and Mr Louis Nel (deputy); Home Affairs and National Education, Mr F.W. de Klerk and Mr Pierre Cronje (deputy); Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange; Communication and Public Works, Mr L.A.P.A. Munnik and Mr Ben Wilkens (deputy for land affairs); Health and Welfare, Dr Nak van der Merwe and Mr George Morrison (deputy); Cooperation, Development, and Education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, with Mr Ben Wilkens (deputy for development) and Mr Sam de Beer (Deputy for cooperation and education); Defence, General Magnus Malan and Mr Adrian Vlok (deputy); Manpower, Mr Pietie du Plessis; Industries and Commerce, Dr Dawie de Villiers and Mr Kent Durr (deputy); Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee; Agriculture, Economics, and Water Affairs, Mr Greyling Wentzel and Mr Gert Coetzee (deputy); Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr Danie Steyn; Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis; Environment Affairs and Tourism, Mr John Wiley.

Acting Council Head Picked

MB151538 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1509 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 15, SAPA — As a result of the incapacity through illness of Dr Nak van der Merwe, the role of chairman of the White Ministers Council would be filled by Mr Sarel Hayward until there was greater clarity on Mr Van der Merwe's health, President P.W. Botha said today. Dr L.A.P.A. Munnik would act as minister of health services and welfare in Mr Van der Merwe's place.

Botha Comments on Black Affairs Administration

MB151543 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1528 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 15, SAPA — President P.W. Botha said today he believed there was a special significance in the fact that control and administration of black affairs since 1910 had been placed under the head of government by all constitutions. At a press conference today, Mr Botha said it was in this spirit that he intended to devote particular attention to the furthering of interests of the country's black communities and particularly their participation in decisionmaking concerning their own interests.

"It is therefore my intention to instruct the ministeradministering the Department of Cooperation and Development, and Education and Training to do so in the closest liaison with me. This is also the case regarding other ministers who have been given the task of fulfilling functions that have in the past been the responsibility of the minister of cooperation and development and which have now been transferred to other departments. The special cabinet committee under the chairmanship of the minister of constitutional development and planning, which is presently conducting certain negotiations and handling overall planning already regularly reports to me," Mr Botha said.

ANC Condemns Government; Swearing In of Botha

MB141825 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has said the swearing in of former South African Prime Minister Pieter Botha as executive president under the new constitution is a consolidation of apartheid. The ANC statement released in Lusaka today said that the assumption of the new office by Botha after the rejection of the Colored and Indian elections by the majority of South Africans manifested the continuation of the oppressed blacks.

The ANC also condemned the presence of UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi at the swearing-in ceremony, saying this confirmed that the people of Southern Africa were still confronted with an arrogant and aggressive regime which has not changed its objectives.The statement called on the people of South Africa to continue to refuse to accept the legitimacy of the racist Pretoria regime.

PFP Leader Says Black Rights Must Be Developed

MB151157 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1135 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 15, SAPA — The only way in which whites could look with confidence to the future was by facing the challenge of black constitutional development now, the leader of the Progressive Federal Party, Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert, said today. He addressed the Cape congress of the party on the oppositions future role in the new dispensation.

"Only a dramatic and clear sign from the government that it is prepared to consider a new beginning as far as the constitutional position of blacks is concerned, holds the promise of undercutting the increasing spiral of violence ... in our metropolitan areas," he said. Dr Slabbert asked whether there was any clearer demonstration that black constitutional development was at a dead end than the riots and disturbances on the very day of the inauguration of new executive state president.

"That there are no adequate channels for the legitimate expression of grievances by blacks, particularly in the metropolitan and urban areas, and that the exclusion of blacks from the central constitution of South Africa ... remains the one glaring ommission on the political agenda of the government."

The government had appointed a cabinet committee to go into the constitutional position of blacks in the future. "I believe that this is a sign of hope," Dr Slabbert said. But if the government continued to assume the homeland policy was non-negotiable, that all blacks exercised their final rights of citizenship within, and in linkage with, the homelands, and that the problem of influx control simply remained one of finding acceptable administrative and legal machinery to distiguish between "urban insiders" and "rural outsiders," there would be no hope of finding a solution to unrest and instability.

"The only way in which any white person can look with confidence to the future of this country, the only way in which he or she can realistically pursue their interests in a stable and prosperous country, is by facing up to the reality of the black presence in our cities and our rural areas and by facing the challange of black constitutional development now, and not postponing it to future generations."

Resolutions Passed on PFP Party Membership

MB151338 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1321 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 15, SAPA — The Progressive Federal Party [PFP] today indicated clearly that the party membership would be open to all, irrespective of race or color, but that it was not going to embark on a recruitment drive. Three resolutions dealing with the prohibition of Political Interference Act were passed by the PFP's Cape provincial congress in Cape Town today.

One, which was regarded as the most important, was that membership of the PFP had always been open to people of all races but that the prohibition of Political Interference Act had effectively prevented people other than whites from becoming members. An amendment was moved deleting the word "recruit" from the resolution, after which it was passed. There was one dissenting vote by a congress member who argued that by allowing membership to other groups it would have been an infringement of the law.

Replying to the resolution, the leader of the official opposition, Dr F. Van Zyl Slabbert, said if people wanted to join the PFP and understood the consequences, then he would be prepared to let them. Earlier, Dr Slabbert said he felt the act should disappear from the statute books and that this was something he had stated before.

In terms of his party's constitution, the PFP was open to any person irrespective of race, sex, or religion. The only reason they could not join was because of the act. "I am loathe to encourage others into prosecution if they are not doing it voluntarily. If you talk of recruitment campaigns, you are talking of recruiting other people into prosecution."

Slabbert Comments on Strategy Toward Dispensation

MB151332 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1310 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 15, SAPA — The Progressive Federal Party [PFP] was going into the new dispensation to pursue an open society for all South Africans, its leader, Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert, said today. Addressing the party's Cape congress, Dr Slabbert said the PFP would pursue its former goals in the new constitution as it had under the old.

"The question has been asked: Do we go in to destroy or do we go in to make it work? We go in to do neither — we go in to pursue an open [words indistinct]. The constitution is not a goal in itself but a means, and so too was the old. Even the government says it is a point of departure and we must see to it that it is used to pursue an open society rather than the National Party's apartheid society."

The traditional role and functions of the opposition would continue and the PFP would focus on political issues lying outside the scope of the constitution — for example, where did the Department of Cooperation and Development fit into "General" or "Own" Affairs? It (the department) is definitely an own affair of the blacks, which is of general consequence to all in South Africa."

The PFP would also have to explore and exploit contradictions of the new parliamentary system, which had no conventions on which to rely to cope with these contradictions. One of these was the marriage of a presidential type of government with a parliamentary type of government and the problems of collective responsibility which would arise in a coalition cabinet.

Botha, Savimbi React to Reports of DPRK Troops

MB141442 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and the leader of the UNITA movement in Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi, both reacted in Cape Town this morning to reports of the presence of North Korean troops in Angola. Mr Botha said that he would not be surprised if there were in fact North Koreans in Angola, but there were no details of numbers and he doubted the authenticity of the figures mentioned in newspaper reports.

Dr Savimbi said that he had no evidence that North Korean soldiers were fighting against UNITA. Referring to UNITA's struggle against the MPLA Government, he said that his forces had already infiltrated into Luanda.

Angola Talks To Continue Dispite Accusations

MB141922 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says despite claims and counter claims that both South Africa and Angola have violated the Lusaka agreement, discussions between the two countries are continuing. Mr Botha said at a news conference in Cape Town that the Joint Monitoring Commission between the two countries had held an important meeting in southern Angola earlier this month.

The UNITA leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi, told the conference that his forces had attacked a town about 100 km from Luanda. He added that UNITA forces had already infiltrated the Angolan capital. A UNITA statement released in Lisbon later said UNITA forces had seized the Angolan Army Base at Ucua, which served as part of the outer defense network for Luanda. It said 45 Angolan soldiers and 18 Cubans had been killed. UNITA casualties were 4 killed and 11 wounded. Dr Savimbi was in Cape Town to attend the inauguration of the new state president, Mr P.W. Botha.

SWAZILAND

'Last Few' ANC Members Expelled; Sent to Tanzania

AB161234 Paris AFP in English 1204 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Mbabane, Sept 16 (AFP) — Ten members of the African National Congress, among the last few ANC members in Swaziland, were expelled from the country yesterday and flown to Tanzania, a senior police spoksman said here today.

This brings to about 100 the number of members of the banned South African anti-apartheid movement expelled from the mountain kingdom, sandwiched between South Africa and Mozambique, in the last three months. Most were arrested for illegal entry into the kingdom and for illegal possession of arms and ammunition after Mbabane disclosed earlier this year that a secret security pact had existed with Pretoria since February 1982. The disclosure of the agreement followed the signing of the similar Nkomati peace accord between Mozambique and South Africa on March 16 this year.

Mozambican Refugees Resettled at New Camp

MB141800 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] About 1,000 Mozambican refugees were yesterday transfered from Lomahasha to a camp at Malindza in the Lowveld. The group, which is running away from the rebellious Mozambican National Resistance Movement, has claimed lives of their relatives [sentence as heard]. Some of the refugees, who were transported by United Nations and Save the Children Fund vehicles, had to be rushed to hospital because of poor health accumulated as a result of the rains, and two of the women needed maternity care. On arrival at the camp, they were given food, blankets, and tents supplied by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Liqoqo Member Attends Botha Installation

MB141949 Mbabane Television Service in English
1815 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpt] A member of the Supreme Council of State, Mr Abednigo Kuseni Hlope, left the country yesterday for Cape Town to represent Her Majesty Queen Regent Ntombi at the installation today of the first executive president of the Republic of South Africa, former prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, who was sworn in in Cape Town this morning.

Zambian Minister Delivers Message to Prime Minister

MB141701 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The Zambian minister of manpower development, [title as heard] Mr J. Mwondela, today delivered a special message from the Zambian prime minister, Mr Nalumino Mundia, to the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, at Government House. During his call, the Zambian minister, who is currently attending a Southern African Development Coordination Conference regional training council conference in Mbabane, said that Zambia and Swaziland have enjoyed long relations which were established by the late King Sobhuza II and the Zambian president, Kenneth Kaunda.

In reply, the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, told the Zambian minister that the late King Sobhuza II used to consult the Zambian leader as an old statesman in the African Continent. Prince Bhekimpi asked the Zambian minister to convey to the Zambian leader the government's thanks for having mediated between the ANC and the Swazi Government Security Forces [as heard], adding that such a mediation was helpful in the normalization of relations between Swaziland and the ANC leadership.

The prime minister told the Zambian minister that the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland will always seek Kaunda's advice whenever she finds herself in problems. Prince Bhekimpi also asked Mr Mwondela to convey messages of goodwill to his counterpart in Zambia.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Reiterates Warning Over RSA Situation

MB141000 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Zambia has again warned of an explosion in South Africa unless Western countries apply pressure on the apartheid regime to give freedom to the majority blacks. Speaking at State House last night when the visiting four-man GDR delegation called on him, His Excellency President Kaunda said there would be an explosion in South Africa's majority if apartheid continued in that country.

He told the delegation that the South African regime had for a long time been sentencing fellow men to life imprisonment because of their color, adding that no human being had the right of oppressing others on account of color.

In reply, the leader of the German delegation, [name indistinct], who is also a member of the Central Committee, pledged his country's continued support to Zambia and other African states in their struggle against racial discrimination in Southern Africa. President Kaunda was later presented with a collection of German music, documents of his visit to the GDR, and documents of the GDR's fight against fascism.